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ADAMS. CLAY. WEBSTER AND NUCKOLLS
COUNTIES. NEBRASKA.

COMPRISING

A Condensed History of the State, a number of Biographies of Distinguished Citizens of the same, a Descriptive History of each of the Counties mentioned, and numerous Biographical Sketches of the Citizens of such Counties.

ILLUSTRATED.

CHICAGO.
THE GOODSPEED PUBLISHING CO.
1890.

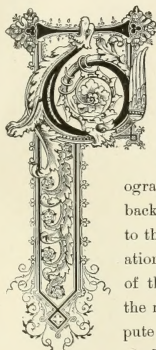
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PREFACE.

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HE method by which this book was prepared is the only successful plan yet devised for the preservation of local history and biography throughout the United States, and the number of volumes distributed seems fabulous. Over one million copies have been sold in the United States in the last fifteen years at prices ranging from \$10 to \$25 per copy, aggregating a total valuation of fully \$15,000,000. Many of these works are purely biographical, containing no history whatever; others are genealogical, extending back to the origin of the family on this continent. Whatever may be the objection to the method of preparation, whatever fault may exist in the celerity of compilation and publication, the enormous circulation and the wonderful popularity of the works, as shown in their sale at high prices, prove that the end justifies the means. No one but an enemy of society and progress will undertake to dispute a proposition so manifestly true.

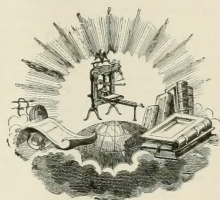
The Publishers have few if any excuses to offer in handing this fine volume to their patrons, for whom alone it was prepared. It is a work of permanent worth, carefully compiled from the most valuable material to be found, critically read and revised, and in mechanical make-up will challenge comparison with the most improved products of the art of book-making. Every biography was submitted by mail, and nearly all were promptly corrected and returned by the subjects. Much of the history was prepared by home talent and is substantially accurate. The promises contained in the prospectus used by our agents on the canvass, have been exceeded in almost every detail; a candid comparison is solicited.

The condensed State history was prepared mainly by Mr. C. F. Royce, editor of the *Gazette-Journal*, Hastings; while several important chapters were written by Col. Isaiah Piatt, of the historical staff. The latter also compiled the histories of Webster and Nuckolls Counties. The remainder of the history, save many small contributions from numerous residents, was compiled by Prof. M. A. Leeson, who has had over fifteen consecutive years' experience in local historical work. Thanking our patrons and friends for their liberal assistance, we respectfully tender them this beautiful volume.

CHICAGO, June, 1890.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Revised 45.00



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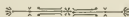
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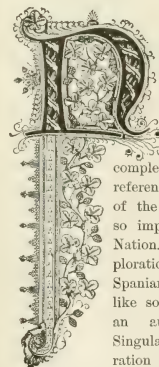


HISTORY OF NEBRASKA

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THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA—NEBRASKA ORIGINALLY A PART OF LOUISIANA—FERDINAND DE SOTO AND HIS
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Justly Cesar scorns the poet's lays;
It is to history he trusts for praise. —*Pope.*



NEBRASKA was originally a part of the great Territory of Louisiana, which comprised very nearly one-third of the present area of the United States. A history of the State would be incomplete without at least a brief reference to the earliest explorations of the region which to-day forms so important a part of our great Nation. The story of the earliest explorations of Louisiana by the Spaniards in 1539-44 reads more like some mediæval romance than an authentic historical record. Singularly enough, the first exploration of the great valley watered by the "Father of Waters" was more the result of a love of adventure on the part of a few Spanish cavaliers, lured by visions of suddenly-acquired riches, than of a desire to enlarge the boundaries of science or to increase the wealth of a nation.

The discovery of the Mississippi River, and the first exploration of the great valley bearing its name, are commonly attributed to Ferdinand de Soto, a Spanish captain and explorer, and one of the most famous of the Eldorado adventurers of the sixteenth century. He was the contemporary of Cortez and Pizarro, the cruel conquerors of Mexico and Peru, and was a companion of the latter in the famous campaign which resulted in the overthrow and spoliation of the Incas.

The adventurous spirit of the times had impelled Columbus to brave the dangers and imaginary terrors of unknown seas, and the discovery of a new world, peopled with a new and unknown race of beings, was the result of his daring. De Soto, with others of a like venturesome disposition, was attracted to the newly-discovered continent, and in 1518 he is found a member of an expedition to Darien. In 1828 he made an exploration of the coasts of Guatemala and Yucatan, and again, in 1532, he led 300 volunteers to the assistance of Pizarro, who was at that time engaged in the conquest of Peru. De Soto signalized his campaign in Peru by many brilliant achievements; and he returned to Spain with an added

luster to his fame, and his pockets lined with riches ignobly wrested from a weak and confiding people.

In the year 1538 De Soto organized the memorable expedition that was forever to make his name famous in the annals of history. His was no common band. It was composed of the flower of Spanish chivalry, and in its ranks many a scion of noble blood acknowledged the leadership of the renowned explorer. All were actuated by the same motives—the love of adventure and the hope of gain. The conquests of Mexican and Peru led them to believe that still other semi-barbarous nations were hidden in the unexplored recesses of the strange, new continent. In equipment and accoutrements the expedition rivaled the most gorgeous descriptions of oriental splendor. The glittering armor and magnificent paraphernalia of the soldiers, the silken banners and the resplendent trappings of the fiery war horses, together with the mysterious and picturesque rites of the priests of the Spanish church who accompanied the expedition, were well calculated to inspire a barbarous foe with respect and awe.

The expedition landed in safety at Espirito Santo Bay, on the coast of Florida, in May, 1539. Following the example of the intrepid Cortez, De Soto burned his ships and fearlessly turned into the trackless wilds of the unexplored peninsula. For four years the little band wandered through the almost impenetrable forests of the lower Mississippi Valley. History gives us but the meager details of those four years of weary wandering; but the untold privations and sufferings of the hapless explorers can in a measure be conceived.

At first the Indians looked upon De Soto and his followers as gods descended from the heavens, and feared them accordingly; but when they saw that the white men were, like themselves, subject to disease and death, and possessed no supernatural power, their enforced friendship turned into deadly hate and open hostility. Their ill-will increased with the brutality with which they were treated whenever they incurred the displeasure of the cruel and haughty Spaniards. De Soto and his men were compelled to fight many pitched battles with the Indians, who were invariably defeated.

The captive Indians, who were compelled to

serve as guides, led the greedy Spaniards farther and farther into the interior by repeating tales of fabulous wealth of the temples and palaces of great cities. Lured by the ever fleeting *ignis fatuus* of wealth, De Soto's band, now rapidly decreasing in numbers, plunged still deeper into the wilderness, their march being constantly retarded by conflicts with the Indians, and their pathway marked by the graves of those who had died by the poisoned arrow of the Indian warrior, or from effects of the fetid breath of the fever-breeding swamps. They struggled on and onward, until in the spring of 1541, the glorious sight of the broad Mississippi—the mighty Father of Waters, burst upon their wondering vision. There it rolled in all its majesty, a river broad enough to float on its bosom the combined navies of the then civilized world. De Soto crossed the mighty river in hastily constructed boats, and pursued his wanderings on the western side. It is more than probable that his eyes rested on the broad prairies of the now fertile State of Nebraska. Certain it is that Nebraska was visited by Spanish explorers long before the advent of the French or English, for portions of their armor and equipment have been discovered in this State within the past decade; but whether or not these relics belonged to De Soto's band is a secret forever locked in the breast of unwritten history.

But all wanderings must have an end; and, weary of their long journeying, and discouraged by their failure to find the coveted riches, De Soto's disheartened band turned to retrace their steps to the sea. On the homeward march De Soto was stricken with a malignant fever, from the effects of which he died. Mournfully the little band consigned the remains of their daring leader to the depths of the mighty river which he had discovered. Electing another leader, they pushed on in an attempt to reach the east coast of Florida. Failing in this, they constructed boats and launched out into the Mississippi, reaching the mouth of the river after a precarious voyage of nineteen days. They followed the coast until they came to a Spanish settlement, where they found means to return to Spain.

This ended one of the most remarkable exploring expeditions ever known to history. Three pub-

lished narratives of the expedition were given to the world; but the Spaniards formed no conception of the magnitude of De Soto's discovery, nor of the vast possibilities of empire that lay within the trackless forests of the dark continent. It is useless to indulge in idle speculation as to what the history of the great territory of which Nebraska is a part, might have been had the indolent Spaniards comprehended the extent and fertility of the vast regions drained by the great river and its tributaries. Had they so comprehended it, they might have founded an empire, beside which the mighty empire of Rome would have dwindled into insignificance; but, beyond planting a few weak and struggling colonies in Florida, Spain did nothing to establish her claims to the Mississippi Valley, and a hundred years elapsed before civilized man again visited that region.

For nearly a century and a half after the ill-fated De Soto slept beneath the waters of the great river which he had discovered, the Mississippi Valley remained undisturbed in the possession of the Indians. Spain had made no effort to civilize the vast region she had claimed by right of discovery, and in the meantime the course of events had brought about many changes in the Old World. France and England had become the two great rival powers of Europe, and both had turned eagerly to the new continent for new fields of conquest. England had established herself along the coasts of the Atlantic and was gradually extending her domains to the westward. France had obtained a foothold at Quebec and was slowly pushing her colonies up the St. Lawrence River. Both nations saw the almost limitless possibilities of empire in the great valley of the Mississippi, and both took steps toward its occupation. France assumed the initiative and eventually acquired the coveted territory.

It is a matter of history that the complete exploration and final settlement of the territory which afterwards became known as Louisiana, was due more to the efforts of Christian missionaries than to commercial enterprise or national spirit. The first men to enter upon a systematic exploration of the vast region of which Nebraska is a part, were the Jesuits, or members of the Society of Jesus, a

famous religious society founded by Ignatius Loyola, a Spanish Knight of the sixteenth century. The Jesuits, unlike the other religious orders of the Catholic Church, mingled in the affairs of men, and did not indulge in those habits of seclusion and self-mortification which characterized the life of the monks. Actuated by a fervor and zeal before unknown in the history of the church, the Jesuits turned their attention to the new world and were among the first to explore its trackless wilds, and certainly the first to teach the savage the ways of Christian and civilized life. The Banner of the Cross was planted far in advance of the steadily encroaching colonies of the Europeans, and thousands of savages listened to the story of the new religion long before they heard the voice of the trader and the settler.

The St. Lawrence River, with the great chain of lakes, entering the continent from the east, and the Mississippi River, entering from the south, were the two great avenues through which the Europeans entered the heart of the American continent. The work of the Jesuit missionaries had led to the discovery of the Ohio River and the partial exploration of two routes to the Mississippi; but as yet the eyes of the Europeans had not rested upon the northern portion of that great river. It remained for two young men, Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette, the former a fur trader and the latter a Jesuit missionary, to make the final discovery. Joliet was born in Quebec, of humble parentage. Educated by the Jesuits for the priesthood, he early abandoned his religious offices for the more sordid pursuits of fur trading. The hardihood and experience of this life gave him the enterprise, boldness and determination to push the expedition to a successful issue. His companion, Jacques Marquette, presented a striking contrast. He was born in France, and, inheriting from his parents a strong religious susceptibility, he was early in life imbued with the prevailing religious enthusiasm. He became a Jesuit, and in 1666 crossed the Atlantic to labor among the savages of the American forests. He was eminently qualified for this noble work. Possessing an indomitable will and courage, great purity and humility of character, and an affection-

ate manner in dealing with the Indians, he met with far greater success than any of his fellow missionaries.

Having completed the necessary arrangements, these two daring explorers, with five hardy companions, set out on their perilous undertaking on May 17, 1673. For a month they pushed steadily forward, now paddling in canoes along the swift current of unknown streams, again threading their way through dense forests. On June 17, just one month from the day they started, they reached the mouth of the Wisconsin, pushed their frail canoes out into the broad, rolling Mississippi, and drifted rapidly down the current. Down the river they glided, the scenery on either side presenting an ever-changing panoramic view of wild and rugged beauty. They passed the mouth of the Missouri, its muddy waters retaining their identity for miles before mingling with the clearer waters of the Mississippi. Further on they reached the mouth of the Ohio, and still further down they came to the mouth of the Arkansas.

It was now the middle of July, and, warned by their rapidly diminishing stores of supplies, the explorers decided to follow the course of the river no farther. Slowly retracing their way up the strong current the party reached the mission at the head of Green Bay in the latter part of September, having traveled a distance of nearly three thousand miles in less than six months.

Marquette remained at the mission to recuperate his health, which had become impaired by the arduous journey, while Joliet pushed on to Montreal to report the results of the expedition. He was received with open arms by the projectors of the enterprise, and when he related the success of the undertaking, their joy was unbounded. The shrewd Frenchmen were quick to see the possibilities of large accessions to their territory, and immediately took steps to complete the explorations so auspiciously begun by Marquette and Joliet.

It remained for another intrepid Frenchman to complete the work left unfinished by Marquette and Joliet, and to take formal possession of Louisiana in the name of the King of France. Sieur de La Salle was a firm believer in the theory that the Mississippi

River afforded a short and direct route to the Indies, a dream eagerly cherished by a long line of explorers, beginning with the renowned Christopher Columbus himself. Compelled by the result of Marquette and Joliet's expedition to abandon the theory, La Salle conceived the idea of finishing the exploration of the Mississippi to its mouth and claiming the entire region for the King of France. He accordingly obtained a royal commission, with all the necessary authority to take possession of the region he expected to explore, and money to erect forts to hold it with. With ample authority and plenty of means, he sailed from France in 1678 with thirty men. After arriving at Quebec he reinforced his party by the addition of several experienced explorers, whose names afterwards became famous.

From the time he left France, La Salle labored incessantly in the prosecution of his cherished enterprise. Two years were spent in exploring the upper valley, and it was not until December 21, 1681, that he set out from the mouth of the St. Joseph River on the final expedition to the Mississippi. The streams were covered with ice and his men were compelled to build sledges upon which to haul their canoes and supplies to the Illinois River. Arriving at the Illinois, they travelled down that river on the ice until they reached Peoria Lake, where the open water permitted the use of their canoes. Again embarking, they reached the mouth of the Illinois where it empties into the Mississippi, on February 6, 1682. Then for a second time a French expedition was swept southward by the hurrying current of the mighty river. The swift-flowing current soon carried them from the rigor of a Northern winter into the balmy spring time of the sunny South. La Salle made many landings in order to greet the natives with friendly assurances and to set up the arms of France. The resistless current of the majestic river carried the party nearer and nearer the sea until, on the 6th of April, 1682, the broad bosom of the gulf opened on their sight, tossing its restless billows, as limitless, as voiceless, as lonely, as when born of chaos, without a sign of life.

At the mouth of the Mississippi, La Salle erected a column, bearing the inscription: "Louis le Grand, Roi de France et de Navarre; Regne; La

Neuvieme, Avril, 1682." In honor of his beloved king, La Salle named the country through which he had passed Louisiana, and took formal possession by a brilliant display, and the imposing rites of the Catholic Church. Thus, after some four years of untold privation, and after overcoming obstacles which would have daunted a less intrepid spirit, La Salle had accomplished his mission and acquired a fame which will last as long as the mighty Father of Waters pursues his restless course from the lake regions of the north to the sea.

The government of France at once took the necessary steps to hold the vast territory claimed by La Salle. That distinguished soldier and explorer remained by virtue of his royal commission, military governor of the Territory until 1689, when a civil government was set up with the Marquis de Sanville as royal viceroy. De Sanville governed a country immensely superior to France in extent of territory, but his subjects numbered only 300, not including the Indians. By regular appointment of viceroys the succession was maintained until, by the treaty of Fontainebleau, concluded on November 3, 1862, France relinquished her claims to the Territory. The following is a list of the viceroys, together with the years of their service:

Robert, Cavalier de La Salle.....	1682-1688
Marquis de Sanville.....	1689-1700
Bienville.....	1701-1712
Lamothe Cadillac.....	1713-1715
De L'Epinay.....	1716-1717
Bienville.....	1718-1723
Boisbriant.....	1724
Bienville.....	1732-1741
Baron de Kelerec.....	1753-1762
D'Abbadie.....	1763-1766

In 1762, France was compelled by force of military necessity, to relinquish her title to Louisiana to Spain. That government combined the semi-military government until 1803, when the Territory passed under the flag of the United States. The following is a list of the Spanish governors:

Antonio de Ulloa.....	1767-1768
Alexander O'Reilly.....	1768-1769
Louis de Unzaga.....	1770-1776
Bernardo de Galvez.....	1777-1784
Estevan Miro.....	1785-1787
Francisco Luis Hurtu, Baron de Carondelet.....	1789-1792
Gayoso de Lemos.....	1793-1798
Sebastian de Casa, Calvo y O'Farrel.....	1798-1799
Jean Manuel de Salcedo.....	1800-1803

Although France regained possession of Louisiana on October 1, 1800, Jean Manuel de Salcedo remained as governor until the United States took formal possession.

The immense territory attaching to the crown of France by reason of La Salle's enterprise, comprised about one-third of the present area of the United States, and was by far the most extensive colonial possession of that nation. But in time the glory of France began to lose some of the luster imparted to it by the brilliant genius of Louis XIV. In the treaty which, in 1763, concluded the "Seven Years War," which had shaken the monarchies of Europe to their very foundations, France, torn, bleeding and humiliated by the dread disasters of war, was compelled to acknowledge the sovereignty of England in America as extending westward to the Mississippi River, and to cede to that nation all her rich possessions in Canada. As if this great loss of territory was not sufficiently humiliating, France was compelled by another treaty, to relinquish to Spain all claims to the immense Territory of Louisiana. Thus, as a result of a single war, France was dispossessed of every foot of her territory in America.

With the acquisition of Louisiana in 1762, Spain controlled over one-half of the North American continent; but her sovereignty over Louisiana was but of brief duration. Mighty events were following each other in rapid succession. The thirteen English colonies in America had rebelled against the mother country and had become free and independent States. Napoleon Bonaparte had raised himself from Corsican obscurity to the throne of France, with all Europe trembling at his feet. In 1800 his mighty genius wrested Louisiana from the hands of Spain; but the dreams of a French empire in America were soon shattered by the dire necessities of Napoleon, who by force of circumstances was compelled to relinquish Louisiana to the United States for a monetary consideration.

The account of the negotiations which led to the peaceful acquisition of Louisiana by the Government of the United States forms one of the most interesting chapters of our National history; but as it is more pertinent to National than to State his-

tory, a brief reference must suffice in these pages. During the years in which Spain had controlled Louisiana the question of the free navigation of the Mississippi River stirred up no little contention between the United States and the Spanish government. The Mississippi River at that time formed the only outlet for the products of the settlers west of the Alleghany Mountains; and the obstructive regulations of the Spanish authorities at New Orleans had caused no little ill-feeling between the two nations. In all probability the distrust and ill-feeling would have led to an open rupture, had not the retrocession of Louisiana to France, in 1800, put an entirely new aspect upon affairs. If the regulations of the Spanish authorities at New Orleans had proven distasteful to the people of America, the change to French authority was likely to prove even more so. Napoleon fully appreciated the immense value of Louisiana and at once began the work of fortifying the entrance to the Mississippi. Thomas Jefferson, then president of the United States, was quick to perceive the danger of allowing so formidable a rival to establish herself in such close proximity. The "Monroe Doctrine" had not yet been promulgated, and Jefferson, with the wisdom which had conceived the Declaration of Independence, formed the plan of purchasing the Territory of Louisiana from France.

The condition of affairs in France was exceedingly favorable to the plans of President Jefferson on behalf of the United States. Napoleon was on the eve of a mighty struggle with England, which would call for all his energies, all his resources. While keenly feeling the disgrace of surrendering Louisiana to England, he foresaw that England's superior naval force would quickly wrest that important colonial possession from him. Moreover, he was greatly in need of funds with which to prosecute the war. In addition to all this, he perceived the splendid opportunity for foiling England's intention of securing Louisiana by ceding that Territory to the United States. So when Messrs. Monroe and Livingston, the commissioners appointed to conduct the negotiations on the part of the United States, arrived in Paris they found all preliminary negotiations unnecessary, the only thing

to be agreed upon being the price and the terms of sale.

In meeting some of the objections made by some of his ministers to the sale of Louisiana, Napoleon used the singularly prophetic words: "Perhaps it will be objected that the Americans will be found too powerful for Europe in two or three centuries; but my foresight does not embrace such remote fears. Besides, we may hereafter expect rivalries among the members of the Union. The confederacies which are called perpetual only last till one of the contracting parties finds it to his interest to break them." The secession of the Southern States was thus clearly predicted by Napoleon sixty years before it was attempted; but even Napoleon's marvelous foresight did not permit him to look forward still another decade and see a united country, stronger and more powerful than before the rupture.

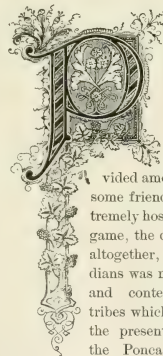
After carrying on the negotiations for some days, the treaty ceding Louisiana to the United States was concluded on April 30, 1803. The price agreed upon was eighty million francs, or about fifteen million dollars of good American money. The instructions given the American commissioners by the government of the United States did not authorize them to make an outright purchase of Louisiana; but Monroe and Livingston were so surely possessed of the views of President Jefferson in regard to the matter that they felt that they could safely transcend their authority, and rely upon the patriotism and good sense of the American people for approbation. They were not deceived, and Congress ratified the treaty of purchase, and on March 9, 1804, the stars and stripes were unfurled at St. Louis in token of formal possession. Louisiana thus became a Territory of the United States.

The history of the exploration and formation of the Territory of Louisiana has thus been briefly traced up to the time it passed under the authority of the United States. With a more intimate knowledge of the subject, the reader may now turn to the succeeding chapters, which will contain a brief sketch of the history of Nebraska proper.

CHAPTER II.

INDIAN HISTORY OF NEBRASKA—THE PRINCIPAL TRIBES—THE PONCAS AND THEIR MELANCHOLY HISTORY—THEIR TREATIES WITH THE UNITED STATES—OUTRAGES BY UNITED STATES SOLDIERS—THEIR FORCIBLE REMOVAL TO THE INDIAN TERRITORY—STANDING BEAR'S ESCAPE—ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT RELEASE BY JUDGE DUNDY THE PAWNEES, OTOES AND OMAHAS—GREAT BATTLE BETWEEN THE SIOUX AND PAWNEES—THE GREAT UPRISING OF AUGUST, 1864—THE MASSACRE AT PLUM CREEK—STAMPEDE OF THE SETTLERS—PEACE RESTORED.

If justice will take all and nothing give,
Justice, methinks, is not distributive.—*Dryden.*



PREVIOUS to the advent of the white man, the Indians dominated the entire region west of the Missouri River. The country lying between that river and the Rocky Mountains was divided among some forty or fifty tribes, some friendly to each other, others extremely hostile. The plains abounded in game, the climate was not severe, and altogether, the life of the western Indians was more than ordinarily a happy and contented one. The principal tribes which made their homes within the present limits of Nebraska were the Poncas, the Omahas, the Otoes and Pawnees. Of these the Pawnees were the most warlike, and the history of the Poncas is probably the most interesting. In their report of their famous exploration of the Missouri River, Lewis and Clarke refer to Poncas or Poncars as "the remnant of a nation once respectable in point of numbers. They formerly resided on a branch of the Red River of Lake Winnipeg. Being oppressed by the Sioux, they removed to the west side of the Missouri, on Poncar River, where they built and

fortified a village, and remained for some years; but being pursued by their ancient enemy, the Sioux, they have joined and now live with the Mahas (Omahas), whose language they speak." Their numbers were estimated by Lewis and Clarke as being only about 200, all told; but this small estimate is probably to be explained by the fact that at the time of the visit of the famous explorers, the tribe was away on its annual buffalo hunt, and their village had been so long empty and quiet that a buffalo was found grazing there. A few years after the visit of Lewis and Clarke, the population of the tribe was estimated at 400, and in a census of the Indian tribes, taken by Gen. Parter in 1829, their number was set down at 600. The great artist Catlin, who visited them a few years later, rated them a little less. He gives an interesting account of the chief of the tribe, named Shoo-de-ga-cha (smoke), and his young and pretty wife, Hee-la'h-dee (the pure fountain), whose portraits he painted. He says: "The chief, who was wrapped in a buffalo-robe, is a noble specimen of native dignity and philosophy. I conversed much with him, and from his dignified manners, as well as from the soundness of his reasoning, I became fully convinced that he deserves to be the sachem of a more numerous and prosperous tribe. He related to me with great

coolness and frankness the poverty and distress of his nation—and with the method of a philosopher predicted the certain and rapid extinction of his tribe which he had not the power to avert." The day before Catlin arrived at the village this old chief's son, the young Hongs-kay-de, had created a great sensation among the members of the tribe by accomplishing a most startling amount of bigamy in a single day. Being the chief's son, and having been presented by his father with a handsome wigwam and nine horses, he had no difficulty whatever in ingratiating himself into the good graces of the fathers of the most eligible marriageable daughters, and he had, therefore, offered himself to and been accepted by four successive fathers-in-law, promising to each of them two horses, and enjoining upon them profound secrecy until a certain hour, when he would announce to the whole tribe that he was to be married. At the time appointed he appeared, followed by some of his young friends leading eight horses. Addressing the prospective father-in-law who stood nearest him, with his daughter by his side, he said: "You promised me your daughter; here are the two horses." A great hubbub immediately arose, the three others all springing forward, angry and perplexed, claiming his promises made to them. The triumphant young savage exclaimed: "You have all now acknowledged your engagements to me, and must fulfill them. Here are your horses." There was nothing more to be said. The horses were delivered, and Hongs-kay-de, leading two brides in each hand, walked off with great dignity to his wigwam. This was an affair totally unprecedented in the annals of the tribe, and it produced an impression as profound as it could have done in a civilized community, though of a different character—redounding to the young man's credit rather than to his shame—marking him out as one daring and original enough to be a "Big Medicine." Mr. Catlin says that he visited the bridal wigwam soon afterward, and saw the "four modest little wives seated around the fire, seeming to harmonize very well."

The treaty relations between the government and the Ponca Indians during the past seventy-five years have been anything but creditable to the former.

The first treaty made by the United States with this small tribe of gentle and peaceable Indians was in 1817, and was simply an expression of peace and friendship. In 1825 another treaty was made in which the Poncas admit that "they reside within the territorial limits of the United States, acknowledge their supremacy, and claim their protection." They also admit "the right of the United States to regulate all trade and intercourse with them." The United States, on their part, "agree to receive the Poncas tribe of Indians into their friendship and under their protection, and to extend, from time to time, such benefits and acts of kindness as may be convenient, and seem just and proper to the President of the United States." After this there is little mention, in the official records of the government, of the Poncas for thirty years. Other tribes in the upper Missouri region were so troublesome and aggressive that the peaceable Poncas were left to shift for themselves as best they might. In 1856, the agent of the Upper Platte mentions incidentally that the lands of the Poncas were fast being intruded upon by squatters; and in 1857 another agent reports having met a band of Poncas who made complaint that all the Indians on the river were receiving presents while they were overlooked; that the men from the steamboats cut their trees down; and that the white settlers were taking all their lands. In 1858, another treaty was signed by the Poncas, in which they relinquished all the lands occupied and claimed by them except small portions on which the government proposed to colonize and domesticate them. This proceeding was deemed necessary in order to obtain such control over these Indians as to prevent their interference with white settlements, which were extending rapidly. From the day the Poncas signed away their lands, in 1858, their real troubles began, and from that year, the history of the tribe is almost an unbroken record of misery and suffering. The government failed to keep faith with them, the money appropriated for them was stolen by dishonest agents and contractors, and their old enemies, the Sioux, robbed them of what little the white men left them, stole their ponies and killed many of their young men. A single instance will serve to illustrate the long story

of outrage upon this unoffending tribe. In December of 1863 a party of Poncas, consisting of four men, six women, three boys and two girls, returning from a visit to the Omahas, had encamped for the night about twelve miles from their own reservation. In the night a party of soldiers from a military post on the Niobrara River came to their camp, and began to insult the squaws, offering money with one hand and presenting a revolver with the other. The Indians, alarmed, pulled up their lodge and escaped to a copse of willows near by. The soldiers fired at them as they ran away, and then proceeded to destroy all their effects. They cut the lodge cover to pieces, burnt the saddles and blankets, cut open sacks of beans, corn and dried pumpkins, and strewed their contents on the ground, and then went away, taking with them a skin lodge-covering, beaver-skins, buffalo-ropes, blankets, guns, and all the small effects. Early in the morning the Indians returned with their ponies, which had been hidden in the willows, picked up what few things they could find and started for home. After going but a comparatively short distance they were again discovered and attacked by the soldiers who fired upon them, wounding one woman by a ball in her thigh; another, with a child on her back, by two balls through the child's thighs, one of which passed through the mother's side. These women were fired upon as they were crossing the river on the ice. The soldiers then took possession of the six ponies and all the articles at the camp and left. The squaws and children, who were looking for beans, were half a mile below. A little dog belonging to them barked and revealed their hiding place. The soldiers immediately turned on them, dismounted, made up to them and deliberately shot them dead as they huddled helplessly together—three women and a little girl. One of the boys ran for the river, pursued by the soldiers. On reaching the river he dived into the water through a hole in the ice. As often as he lifted his head the soldiers fired at him, but he finally escaped. One of the murdered women had three balls in her head and cheek, her throat cut, and her head half severed by a sabre thrust; another, the youngest woman, had her cloth shirt taken off and carried away, and all her other clothes torn

from her body, leaving it naked. The men who perpetrated this outrage belonged to Company B, of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry, and it is quite needless to remark that they were never brought to justice.

In 1876, the government decided to remove the Poncas to the Indian Territory. By this time the Poncas had acquired many of the arts of civilization. They had comfortable homes, well-tilled farms and supported a school. It was hard for them to leave the homes where they had lived for so many years, especially as they could not understand why they should be compelled to go. A number of chiefs visited the lands in the Indian Territory and found them so cheerless and so sterile that they protested vigorously against the proposed removal, but all in vain. They were forcibly removed from their homes by the soldiers, and compelled to march to the Indian Territory, where they lived most unhappily. Finally Standing Bear and thirty of his people ran away from the Indian Territory, and after a long weary foot journey of three months reached their old friends on the Omaha reservation. They were again arrested. Standing Bear, in his narrative of the sufferings of his tribe, says: "Half of us were sick. We would rather have died than have been carried back; but we could not help ourselves." But help did reach them from an unexpected source. The news of their arrest roused no little excitement in Omaha. At the request of an Omaha editor, Mr. T. H. Tibbles, two prominent attorneys, A. J. Poppleton and John L. Webster, applied for a writ of *habeas corpus*. Standing Bear and his people were brought before Judge Elmer S. Dundy, of the United States District Court. The case attracted National attention. It was argued eloquently and ably by G. M. Lamberton, United States District Attorney, on the one side and by Messrs. Poppleton and Webster on the other. Judge Dundy decided that the Indian is a "person" within the intent and purpose of the constitution, and released the prisoners. The result of the trial attracted general attention through the East and much sympathy was manifested for the unfortunate Poncas. They were finally restored to their reservation, where they still reside in peace and contentment.

The Pawnees were probably the largest and most

powerful Indian nation that lived in Nebraska previous to the advent of the white men. When Louis and Clarke visited the Platte country they found the Pawnees living on the south side of the Platte River, forty-five miles above its mouth. There were four branches of the tribe at that time—the Pawnees proper, consisting of five hundred men with their families, the Republican Pawnees, so named from their having lived on the Republican branch of the Kansas River, whence they emigrated to join the principal band on the Platte. They numbered about 250, exclusive of women and children. The third was the Pawnee Loups, or Wolf Pawnees, who resided on the Wolf Fork of the Platte River nearly a hundred miles from the main branch of the tribe. These numbered 280 men. The fourth band formerly resided far south of Nebraska, but in their wars with their enemies they were so often defeated that they were compelled to move northward to a land where they could be at peace. The four tribes soon after the visit of Lewis and Clarke in 1804, formed a confederation and became practically one tribe. In 1834 they ceded to the United States all their lands south of the Platte River. By another treaty, in 1848, they relinquished still another part of their lands, and by a subsequent treaty made in 1857, after the organization of Nebraska Territory, they gave up all their lands and settled upon a reservation of 288,000 acres of land in the Loup Valley. Here they resided until 1874, when they consented to a removal to the Indian Territory, where they still reside.

The Otoes, another small tribe found in Nebraska by Lewis and Clarke, were spoken of as the remnant of a once powerful nation. Their home was originally on the west bank of the Missouri, about thirty miles above the mouth of the Platte River. They were of a wandering disposition, in frequently moving from point to point. At one time their village was located upon the present site of the city of Omaha and at another time near the present site of Nebraska City. Their first treaty with the government was made in 1834, by which they ceded to the United States a large portion of the lands they had hitherto claimed as their own. Again, in 1854, they ceded to the United States all

their lands, taking in lieu thereof a reservation in the southeastern part of the State, a portion of which they still occupy.

The Omaha Indians formerly resided north of the Missouri River, in Dakota; but being constantly harassed by the Sioux they moved into Nebraska in the early part of the present century. When the Territory of Nebraska was organized the Omahas claimed as their territory the lands west and south of the Missouri and adjoining it, and north of the Platte River. In 1854 this land was ceded to the United States, the Omahas removing to a reservation of 345,000 acres in the northeastern part of the State.

The Sioux tribes more properly belonged to Iowa and Dakota; but in the early part of the present century they overran the Nebraska country, and for many years claimed all that part of the State lying south of the Platte River as their hunting grounds. They were the most warlike of all the western Indians and were constantly at war with their neighboring tribes. The Pawnees were their deadliest enemies, and the two tribes were almost constantly at war. The supremacy of the Pawnees was finally settled in 1832 by one of the most desperate encounters ever recorded in the annals of Indian warfare. The battle was fought near the junction of the Big Sandy and Little Blue River, within the present limits of Jefferson County. According to the best accounts, 16,000 savages participated in the conflict. The Pawnees were under the command of the chief Tac-po-ha-na, while the Sioux were led by Oco-no-me-woe, of whom it is claimed the celebrated Sioux chief, Sitting Bull, is a lineal descendant. The struggle for supremacy lasted for three days and the Sioux were completely worsted, losing over 3,000 men. The Pawnees sustained a loss of 2,000 men. The story of this most remarkable conflict was told in 1870 by an aged French trader named Mont Crevie, one of the numerous agents of the American Fur Company, who were scattered all over the western plains.

From the time Nebraska was formally thrown open to settlement until the white settlers became so numerous as to be formidable, the Indians, and especially the Pawnees, were exceedingly trouble-

some. Their depredations, however, consisted mostly of petty thievery, with an occasional murder and outrage. The only serious uprising of Indians in Nebraska, since the organization of the Territory, occurred in 1864. A number of causes have been assigned for this uprising; but it is probable that the Indians had been nursing the accumulated grievances of years, until their anger had been fully aroused to a formidable outbreak. Their plans included nothing less than the complete extermination of the white settlers along the trails from the western to the eastern part of the State. The uprising was planned with a skill and cunning known only to the savage breast. For two years the preparations went on. Every Sioux and Pawnee Indian was well armed with the most approved modern weapon, and for a time it was believed that these arms were secretly supplied by the agents of the Confederate government, and that the great outbreak was instigated by these emissaries of secession. But, whether this was the case or not, it is needless to say that but little credence has ever been paid to the story. A party of Indians had been detailed to attack every settlement along the Fremont trails for a distance of two hundred miles. The morning of Sunday, August 7, 1864, had been selected as the day for the assault along the entire line, and on that day the assault was made simultaneously according to program. The first massacre reported was at Plumb Creek, in Dawson

County, where eleven settlers were murdered in cold blood. Plumb Creek was a telegraph station, and the operator, divining at once that the threatened outbreak had come, immediately flashed the news along the line, giving warning of the danger. The existence of the telegraph line, together with the fact that the Plumb Creek massacre occurred earlier in the day than any of the others contemplated, saved the lives of many settlers who took measures to protect themselves upon receipt of the warning. A stampede of settlers to the eastern part of the State at once commenced. Nearly every settlement in the valley was abandoned, the settlers pushing for the Missouri River in order to escape destruction. The government threw all available troops in the west into the Platte Valley and after three weeks of arduous work, in which many Indians as well as soldiers lost their lives, the uprising was quelled. The majority of the settlers ventured back to the homes they had abandoned with so much precipitation, and peace once more reigned along the Platte.

The uprising of 1864 was the last serious disturbance raised by the Indians in Nebraska. Since that time a number of "scares" have occurred; but these instances are hardly of sufficient importance to be worthy of especial mention. They will be treated of fully in the history of the counties, where they are chiefly interesting by reason of their local associations.



CHAPTER III.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE TERRITORY—POPULATION OF NEBRASKA AT THE FORMATION OF THE TERRITORY—THE
EARLIEST VISITS OF THE WHITE MEN—THE TRADING POST AND SETTLEMENT AT BELLEVUE—COL.
PETER A. SARPY—THE MORMON SETTLEMENT AT FLORENCE—FIRST ATTEMPTS TO FOUND THE
CITY OF OMAHA—THE SETTLEMENT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY—COL. JOHN BOULWARE—
THE SETTLEMENT AT ST. DEROIN—THE FOUNDING OF BROWNVILLE—EARLY
HISTORY OF DOUGLAS COUNTY—STEPHEN STORY AND HIS SETTLE-
MENT IN RICHARDSON COUNTY.

Hail, memory, hail! In thy exhaustless mine
From age to age unnumbered treasures shine!
Thought and her shadowy brood thy call obey,
And place and time are subject to thy sway.—*Rogers.*



ON the 30th of May, 1854, when President Pierce affixed his signature to the Kansas-Nebraska bill, the Territory of Nebraska gave but little promise of the great State of to-day. The white population of the Territory at that time was less than 3,000 souls, scattered among the little settlements at Bellevue, Omaha, Brownville and other places along the Missouri bottoms.

The oldest settlements in Nebraska were made within the present boundaries of Sarpy county. Lewis and Clarke, in their famous expedition in search of the headwaters of the Missouri River, explored that part of Nebraska lying immediately adjacent to the mouth of the Platte River, in July 1804, and camped for some time near the present site of Bellevue. In 1805, the same spot was visited by Manuel Lisa, a Spanish adventurer, who had doubtless been attracted to the region more from curiosity than from any more practical incentive. It was not, however, until 1810, that a permanent

settlement was attempted in Nebraska. In that year the American Fur Company, organized and controlled by the genius of John Jacob Astor, established a trading-post at Bellevue, and placed a French-Canadian by the name of Francis Deroin in charge. Deroin was soon afterwards succeeded by a fellow-countryman named Joseph Roubidoux, who held the position until 1816, when he was in turn succeeded by John Carbanne. The latter agent remained until 1823, when he was relieved by Peter Sarpy, a man whose name is inseparably linked with the early history of the Territory of Nebraska. He was a splendid specimen of the hardy race of pioneers who have at the present day almost entirely disappeared. He possessed all the hardihood, all the bravery, all the endurance, necessary for a life on the ragged edge of civilization. At the time of the formation of the Territory, Peter Sarpy was described as being about fifty-five years of age, rather below the medium in height, with black hair, dark complexion, well-knit and compact features and a heavy beard that had scorned the razor's edge for many years. His manner was commanding, his address fluent, and, in the presence of the opposite sex, he was polished and refined. He preferred the

freedom of the western plains to the gaiety and refinement of the more civilized life of the East, and was never happier than when visiting the rude wigwams of the Indians encamped around the old trading-post. Such was the appearance and characteristics of one of the oldest settlers of Nebraska. In the same year that Peter Sarpy arrived at Bellevue the Indian agency, which had previously been located at Fort Calhoun, within the present limits of Washington County, was also removed to Bellevue, making the place the most important settlement in the Territory. The trading post drew all the fur traders, traders and Indians for hundreds of miles around, and in certain seasons of the year Bellevue presented an exceedingly lively and animated appearance. The affairs of the little settlement pursued the even tenor of their ways until 1846, when it received new accessions. A representative of the Presbyterian Board of Missions, in the person of Rev. Edward McKinney, visited Bellevue in that year, and decided to establish a mission at that point. The mission was duly established, a school house erected, and D. E. Reed placed in charge. Mr. Reed was another early pioneer who was prominently associated with the settlement of Nebraska. He was the first school teacher, the first regularly-appointed postmaster, and the first editor in the new Territory.

Up to the year 1852 the settlement at Bellevue had always been known as Council Bluffs. This name was not, however, entirely satisfactory to the settlers, and in that year steps were taken to form a company and lay out a town. It was not until February 9, 1854, however, that the town company was formally organized and the settlement given the name of Bellevue. The original incorporators of the town of Bellevue were Peter Sarpy, Stephen Decatur, Hiram Bennett, George Nepner, William R. English, James M. Galeswood, George F. Furner, P. J. McMahon, A. W. Hollister and C. A. Ford. The first postoffice in Nebraska Territory was established at Bellevue in 1849, but it was not until 1855, nearly a year after the Territory had been formally erected and thrown open to settlement, that a regular postmaster, Mr. D. E. Reed, was officially appointed.

At the time of the organization of Nebraska, Bellevue was the most important settlement in the Territory, and would have undoubtedly been selected as the capital but for the strange perversity of one man. In October, 1853, Gov. Burt and Secretary Cuming, the Territorial officers appointed by President Pierce, arrived at Bellevue for the purpose of setting up the Territorial government. By an inscrutable dispensation of all-wise Providence Gov. Burt died after having resided in Nebraska but ten days. Secretary Cuming, who assumed the duties of governor until a successor to Mr. Burt could be regularly appointed, proposed to locate the capital of the new Territory at Bellevue, providing 100 acres of land were donated to the future State. Rev. Mr. Hamilton, superintendent of the Presbyterian mission, which controlled the town site of Bellevue, as well as the lands immediately surrounding the town, declined to donate the land asked for, and in consequence Omaha became the first capital of the Territory of Nebraska.

In 1819 the government located a military post within the present limits of Washington County. The post was then called Fort Atkinson, but afterward this name was changed to Fort Calhoun. It stood on the spot where Lewis and Clarke held their famous council with the chiefs of the Otoe and Missouri Indians.

Next to Peter Sarpy, John Boulware is believed to be the first white man to attempt a settlement in the yet unorganized Territory of Nebraska. He established himself at Fort Calhoun in 1826 and resided there for many years. In 1846 he established, or rather, was placed in charge of a government ferry, at Fort Kearney, at the present site of Nebraska City. The fort was used as a military post by the government until 1848, when it was abandoned and the garrison removed to new Fort Kearney. The American Fur Company also established a trading post at old Fort Kearney in 1846 or 1847, and continued it until 1854.

A trading post was established at St. Derooin, in the southern part of Nemaha County, in 1853, and a town laid out. Robert Hawke, afterward a prominent merchant of Nebraska City, opened a small store at this point in that year. In 1854 Richard

Brown came to Nemaha County, and located on the spot where Brownville now stands.

Next to the settlement at Bellevue, the most important settlement made in Nebraska, previous to the formation of the Territory, was made within the present confines of Douglas County. The first settlement at Omaha was not made until 1852 or 1854; but previous to this time the Mormons in large numbers had found a temporary residing place near that city. In 1844 the Mormons were driven from Illinois. The higher civilization of the East declined to tolerate their peculiar religious beliefs, and they pushed westward toward the setting sun in hopes of finding some place where they could live up to the tenets of their religion without fear of molestation. They crossed the Mississippi, wended their way through the broad State of Iowa, and crossed the Missouri. Here, on the extreme western limit of civilization, they believed they might rest in peace. A colony was located upon or very near the present site of Florence. Here the Mormons built quite a city, with residences, stores, and a place of worship. The land surrounding the settlement was cultivated, and within a short time fully 10,000 disciples of Joseph Smith were settled in and around Florence. The Mormons, however, were not destined to become important factors in the development of the new Territory. In 1850 Brigham Young had taken a band of pioneers across the plains, over the Rockies, to the valley of the Great Salt Lake, where he founded the city that has become known throughout the civilized world as the one plague spot upon the map of the United States. As soon as it was determined to make Salt Lake City the metropolis of a new Territory, where the disciples of Smith could practice their peculiar teachings, the Mormons all over the East prepared to emigrate to the modern Zion. In 1851 the Mormons at Florence abandoned their homes and farms, took up their journey westward, and the place that had known them for six or seven years knew them no longer.

After the Mormon hegira there is no definite record of any permanent settlements in Douglas County for several years. The city of Council Bluffs, on the opposite side of the river, had, in 1853, become quite a city, with 2,000 inhabitants.

In June, 1853, William D. Brown established a ferry between Council Bluffs and the Nebraska side, and made several explorations along the river bottoms. In the same month a company was organized for the purpose of locating a town opposite Council Bluffs and operating a steam ferry-boat between the two points. The company was composed of William D. Brown, Joseph Street, Jesse Williams and Enos Lowe. These gentlemen visited the site of the proposed city of Omaha several times, made friends with the Indians and "squatted" on several claims. Owing to the fact that the Indian title to the land had not yet been extinguished, no attempt was made to make a complete settlement. In the meantime, A. D. Jones, a surveyor living in Council Bluffs, had crossed the river to Nebraska and, with the consent of the Indians, settled upon a claim which he proposed to occupy as soon as the Territory was thrown open to settlement. Nothing further was done in the way of settling Douglas County until the following year.

Early in the spring of 1854, as soon as it became apparent that the Territory would be formally organized and thrown open to settlement, a number of men crossed the river from Council Bluffs and took up claims. Among these the names of the following have been preserved: A. D. Jones, J. E. Johnson, Robert B. Whitted, William Clancy, Jeffry Brothers, J. C. Reeves, James Hickey, Benjamin Leonard, A. R. Gilmore, C. H. Downs, W. P. Snowden, O. B. Seldon, J. W. Paddock, William Gray, John Withnell, George L. Miller, A. J. Poppleton, Loran Miller, J. G. Megeath, A. B. Moore, O. D. Richardson. There were others who came about the same time, and these, with the ones named above, were the first *bona-fide* settlers of Douglas County. They were typical specimens of the pioneers who laid the foundation for the magnificent city of Omaha and State of Nebraska. They went about the work of building a town with commendable zeal and earnestness. Dwelling houses, stores and shops were commenced and places of business opened. The first building was completed by A. D. Jones on May 28, 1854, just two days before President Pierce signed the Kansas-Nebraska bill. A town site was selected, surveyed and platted, and

the new city named "Omaha." The history of Omaha and Douglas County would of itself fill a large volume; but as it is the purpose in these pages, and especially in this chapter, to give merely a brief sketch of the history of the State of Nebraska, no effort will be made to follow up the history of single counties not included in the scope of the main body of the work.

Still another early settlement in Nebraska, previous to the organization of the Territory, was made at the mouth of the Platte River, within the present limits of Cass County. In the spring of 1853, Samuel Martin, having first obtained the necessary permission from the government to establish a trading post in the Platte country, crossed the river from Iowa and erected a two-story building at a point on the south branch of the Platte River, near its mouth, where the city of Plattsmouth now stands. This was the first building erected by a white man in Cass County, previous to the organization of the Territory. In June, 1854, as soon as the news of the final opening of the Territory had been received, a large number of settlers crossed the Missouri River from Iowa and staked out claims. The largest settlement was made at Plattsmouth, and in 1856, two years after the Territory had been organized, Cass County contained a population of 1,251.

Another Nebraska pioneer, whose name is worthy of especial prominence in the pre-Territorial history of Nebraska, was Stephen Story, who settled in Richardson County in 1844. Although born in Vermont, Story was taken to Canada by his parents

when but two years of age, where he lived until he was twenty-one. In Canada he fell in with a class of young men whose adventurous spirit led them to adopt the lives of lumbermen, traders and trappers. Young Story joined a party of kindred spirits and all came to the West. He wandered up and down the Missouri Valley and finally settled in Richardson County, in 1844. But the Indians made matters decidedly unpleasant for him and he was compelled to leave. He joined the army and served in the Mexican War, after which he drifted to California. In 1850, after working in the gold mines of the Golden State for a year, he turned his face to the plains and again settled down in Richardson County, this time permanently. He lived upon a farm for a number of years and started the town of St. Stephen. He was a prominent figure in Richardson County until the day of his death, which occurred on January 27, 1882.

Two other well-known pioneers were Charles Martin and F. X. Dupuis, both of whom settled in Richardson County previous to the formation of the Territory. Both had been trappers and hunters, and both had passed through all the strange vicissitudes of a life on the plains.

In the foregoing pages of this chapter has been given a brief sketch of the settlement of the Territory previous to its formation. When Gov. Burt arrived in Nebraska to assume the duties of governor of the new Territory, he found well-established settlements at Omaha, Bellevue and Plattsmouth, with a number of smaller communities scattered along the Missouri River bottoms.



CHAPTER IV.

THE FORMATION OF THE TERRITORY—OTHER TERRITORIES ADMITTED—CALLS FOR THE FORMATION OF THE
 "PLATTE COUNTRY"—FIRST ATTEMPT TO ERECT THE TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA—A RESUME OF POLIT-
 ICAL EVENTS LEADING TO THE OPPOSITION TO THE ERECTION OF NEBRASKA—THE MIS-
 SOURI COMPROMISE—SECOND ATTEMPT TO FORM THE TERRITORY OF NEBRASKA—
 OPPOSITION OF SOUTHERN SENATORS—THE SLAVERY ISSUE—SENATOR
 DOUGLAS INTRODUCES THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA BILL—ITS OPPO-
 SITION AND FINAL PASSAGE.

"Set all things in their own peculiar place.
 And know that order is the greatest grace."



It has been shown in the preceding chapter how Louisiana became a part of the domain of the United States. When the United States took formal possession, Louisiana contained less than 500 white inhabitants; but the tide of immigration was already sweeping westward, and in 1810 the census showed a total population of 1,062. The influx of English-speaking inhabitants steadily continued, and before many years the struggling settlements enlarged into Territories, and the Territories were soon clamoring for the dignity of Statehood. Previous to the year 1850, the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and Iowa had been carved out of the original Territory of Louisiana. West and northwest of these States lay a vast, unorganized territory, with no form of government whatever. It was pre-eminently the home of the Indian. Immense herds of the buffalo grazed undisturbed on the prairies, and the entire region was as free from the civilizing restraints of the white man as when Columbus first sighted

the palmetto trees of the West Indies. But a territory so vast, so fertile, and so well adapted to the wants of man, was not to be left unoccupied. The gold excitement in California in 1849 had impelled an immense throng of adventurers to cross the plains in search of the treasure fields beyond the Rockies. The route of the emigrants lay along the Platte River, across the entire length of the present State of Nebraska. The whole region was then known as the "Platte Country," and it soon became known that it embraced lands of the greatest value to the settler.

There had been calls for a Territorial organization for the "Platte country" as early as 1850, and in the first session of the XXXIII Congress, which assembled at Washington in the winter of 1851-52, petitions were presented asking for the formation of a new Territory west of the Missouri River. No action was taken in regard to the matter in that session; but in the next session, Mr. Willard P. Hall, a representative from the State of Missouri, offered a bill which had for its object the organization of the "Territory of Platte." This bill was introduced on December 13, 1852, and was referred to the committee on Territories. On February 2, 1853, Representative William A. Rich-

ardson, from that committee, reported a bill providing for the organization of the "Territory of Nebraska." This bill, it will be understood, included all the territory now comprised in the States of Nebraska and Kansas. When the bill came up for consideration in the committee of the whole, it was the signal for a bitter and formidable opposition from the Southern members. After a violent discussion, the committee rose with a recommendation that the bill be rejected; but the House passed the bill on February 10, 1853, by a vote of 98 to 43.

From the House the bill went to the Senate, where its opponents were already organized for its defeat. Reaching the Senate on February 11, it was referred to the committee on Territories. Stephen A. Douglas, whose name is inseparably linked with the history of Nebraska, was chairman of this committee. On March 2 (being the last day but one of the session), a motion to take up the Nebraska bill for consideration was defeated, by a vote of 25 to 20. Another attempt to get the bill before the Senate on the last day of the session was defeated and the bill itself laid upon the table. Thus, the first attempt to erect the Territory of Nebraska was unsuccessful.

It will not be out of place here to give a brief *resume* of the political events which combined to cause so determined an opposition to the formation of the Territory of Nebraska. That opposition had been forming in the minds of the people of the South for forty years, and the implacable hostility of the Southern people to the formation of the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, form one of the most prominent of the causes of the War of the Rebellion.

The first opposition to the admission of a slave State occurred in 1811, when Louisiana knocked at the doors of Congress and demanded admission into the Union. The opposition to the admission of Louisiana was not grounded so much upon the fact that it would increase the power of the slave holders, as upon the alleged violation of the constitution in forming a State out of a Territory not included in the original government of the Union. The opposition centered in the person of

Joseph Quincy, and in the light of subsequent events, his threats of dissolving the Union read strangely enough. He declared that if Louisiana were admitted, "the bonds of the Union were virtually dissolved; that the States which compose it are free from their moral obligations; and that as it will be the right of all, so it will be the duty of some to prepare definitely for a separation, amicably if they can, violently if they must." He maintained that "there was no authority to throw the rights and liberties of this people into 'hotchpotch' with the wild men of Missouri, nor with the mixed but more respectable race of Anglo-Hispania-Gallo-Americans who bask in the sands at the mouth of the Mississippi." Although the people of the North did not go as far as Josiah Quincy in their objections, there was a strong opposition to the admission of Louisiana. Many people of the North had always regarded the purchase of Louisiana as unconstitutional, and always looked upon that Territory as foreign soil; but the agitation did not extend beyond the walls of Congress, and the bill admitting Louisiana was passed by the necessary majority.

But the rapidly-increasing hatred of slavery soon began to crystallize into organized opposition. Benjamin Lundy had organized his "Union Humane Society" in 1815, and soon afterwards had written his famous appeal to the philanthropists on the subject of slavery. Charles Osborne had also started the *Philanthropist*, a journal devoted to the abolition of slavery. The influence of other pioneers in the anti-slavery movement began to make itself felt, and when, six years after Louisiana had become a State of the Union, Missouri asked for admission on an equal footing with the other States, the agitation at once became so violent that for a time it seemed as if the Union would be disrupted. The agitation continued for a period of two years and was finally ended by the adoption of the famous "Missouri Compromise." By the provisions of this compromise, Missouri was admitted as a slave State; but it was further enacted that slavery should forever be prohibited in all that part of the Louisiana purchase lying north of 36 degrees, 30 minutes, north latitude. This compromise, which alone stood between the nation and civil war, allayed to a large

extent the bitter feeling between the North and the South. The North had secured the blessing of freedom for a large part of the then organized Territory, and, as it thought, checked the advance of the slave power. The South felt satisfied that generations would pass before the development of the country would call for the formation of new States out of the unorganized territory. Both were content; though, in the light of subsequent events, both were mistaken.

However, the Missouri compromise, much as it allayed sectional feeling at the time, could not check the sweeping tide of immigration which was surging westward. The population of the United States increased so rapidly that the formation of new States became an imperative necessity. The bill for the formation of the Territory of Nebraska was a result of this demand, and the determined opposition of the slave power was conclusive evidence that the famous compromise would be trampled under foot as soon as it should prove a barrier to the further extension of the slave territory.

The friends of the Nebraska bill did not remain inactive. The XXXIII^d Congress assembled on December 5, 1853, and on December 14 of the same year Senator Augustus C. Dodge, of Iowa, submitted a bill "To organize the Territory of Nebraska." The bill was very similar to the one introduced in the previous Congress by Representative Hall, of Missouri, and contained no intimation that the binding force of the Missouri compromise was to be disputed, or that the compromise itself would be meddled with. After being referred to the proper committee, the bill was, on January 4, 1854, reported back to the Senate by Senator Stephen A. Douglas, chairman of the committee on Territories. In his report Senator Douglas alluded to the fact that a question had arisen regarding the right to hold slaves in the new Territory of Nebraska, after it should have been thrown open to settlement and the Indian laws withdrawn. The Missouri compromise clearly prohibited slavery in the new Territory; but a question had arisen concerning the constitutional power of Congress to pass laws prescribing and regulating the domestic institutions of the various Territories of the Union. One class of states-

men, notably those of Northern birth and education, contended that Congress had no constitutional authority to regulate the domestic institutions of the Territories, but, rather, that such matters should be left exclusively to the people residing therein. Another class of statesmen, who probably represented a much larger number of people, especially those of the South, insisted strenuously upon the doctrine that the constitution secured to every citizen the inalienable right to move into any of the Territories with his property, of whatever kind or description, and to hold and enjoy the same under sanction of law. The committee on Territories, foreseeing the storm of agitation that was certain to follow the re-opening of this much-disputed question, very prudently declined to enter into a discussion of the relative merits of the conflicting opinions.

Soon after the new bill had been reported to the Senate, Mr. Archibald Dixon, a Senator from Kentucky, gave formal notice that when the bill erecting the Territory of Nebraska came up for consideration, he should offer the following amendment:

SECTION 22. *And be it further enacted:* That so much of the eighth section of an act approved March 6, 1820, entitled "an act to authorize the people of Missouri Territory to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the union on an equal footing with the original States, and to prohibit slavery in certain Territories," and declares "that, in all that territory ceded by France to the United States under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of 36 degrees, 30 minutes, north latitude, slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall be forever prohibited," shall not be so construed as to apply to the Territory contemplated by the act, or to any other Territory of the United States; but that the citizens of the several States and Territories shall be at liberty to take and hold their slaves within any of the Territories or States so to be formed therefrom, as if said act, entitled as aforesaid, had never been passed.

This proposition to virtually repeal the Missouri compromise was received by the Senate with no little surprise. Senator Douglas, whose presidential aspirations were well known, had hoped to concentrate Southern prejudice by his proposal to organize the new Territory of Nebraska without reference to the question of slavery; but the belligerent attitude assumed by the Senator from Kentucky

showed him that the South would be satisfied with no doubtful or implied concession. He saw at once that if he was to gain any prestige by fathering the Nebraska bill he must include in that bill the total repeal of the Missouri compromise. Accordingly, upon his own motion, he withdrew the bill, and, on January 23, 1854, reported from his committee a new bill so dissimilar in its provisions that the promoters of the original bill were hardly able to recognize it. Instead of one Territory, to be called Nebraska, stretching from the parallel of 36 degrees, 30 minutes on the north, and westward from the boundary of Iowa and Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, Mr. Douglas proposed to erect two Territories, one to be composed of so much of the territory lying west of the State of Missouri, to be known as Kansas, and the other to compose that region lying west of the State of Iowa. With reference to slavery the new bill contained the following provisions:

SECTION 21. *And be it further enacted:* That in order to avoid all misconception, it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of this act, so far as the question of slavery is concerned, to carry into practical operation the following propositions and principles, established by the compromise measures of 1850, to-wit:

First, That questions pertaining to slavery in the Territories, and in the new States to be formed therefrom, are to be left to the decisions of the people residing therein, through their appropriate representatives.

Second, That "all cases involving title to slaves," and "questions of personal freedom," are referred to the adjudication of the local tribunals, with the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Third, That the provisions of the constitution and laws of the United States, in respect to fugitives from service, are to be carried into faithful execution in all "organized Territories," the same as in the States.

The original Nebraska bill, introduced by Senator Dodge, stipulated that "the constitution and all laws which are not locally inapplicable, shall have the same force and effect within the said Territory as elsewhere in the United States." Mr. Douglas, having once committed himself, threw himself bodily into the arms of the most radical of the pro-slavery

leaders, and to the above stipulation of Mr. Dodge, added the following:

Except the section of the act preparatory to the admission of Missouri into the Union, approved March 6, 1820, which was superceded by the principles of the legislation of 1850, commonly called the compromise measures, and is declared inoperative.

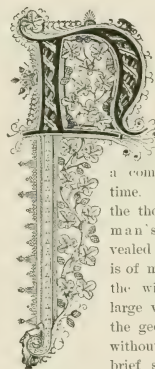
At the present time it is difficult to realize the storm of indignation and protest that swept up from the North at Mr. Douglas' blunt proposal to repeal the Missouri compromise—a measure which had come to be regarded almost as a part of the constitution. There had been, it is true, talk of the repeal of the measure; but the people of the North always looked upon such talk as the mere idle bravado of the slaveholders. Consequently, Mr. Douglas' proposition was the signal for combat. The "Nebraska question" took the precedent of all others, and was almost the sole topic of discussion in public and private circles. The sentiment in the East, North and West seemed to be almost unanimous in opposition to the bill, while even in the South, the section most to be benefited by the repeal of the Missouri compromise, the proposal was looked upon with some disfavor.

In spite of sentiment against it, however, the Kansas-Nebraska bill became a law and was approved by President Pierce on May 30, 1854, after having been almost the sole subject of an excited debate for a period of four months. "No previous anti-slavery excitement," says J. G. Blaine in his "Twenty Years of Congress," "bore any comparison with that which spread over the North as the discussion progressed, and especially after the bill became a law. It did not merely call forth opposition; it produced almost a frenzy of wrath on the part of thousands in both the old parties, who had never before taken any part whatever in the anti-slavery agitation. In the North, conservative men felt that no compromise could acquire weight or sanction or sacredness, if one that stood for a whole generation could be brushed aside by partisan caprice or by the demands of sectional necessity."

CHAPTER V.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION—PRIMITIVE AGES—MINERAL DEPOSITS—TOPOGRAPHY AND PHYSICAL FEATURES—EXTENT AND AREA—RIVERS, LAKES, ETC.—NAVIGABLE STREAMS—TIMBER—BEFORE THE TIME OF WHITE MEN—NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Such blessings Nature pours,
Overstocked mankind enjoys but half her stores.—*Young.*



NO part of the history of Nebraska is of more general interest than an account of its geological formation and character. The record following the advent of man covers but a comparatively short period of time. The history of the State for the thousands of years previous to man's appearance—a history revealed by geological research alone, is of more entrancing interest than the wildest dream of fiction. A large volume might be filled with the geological history of Nebraska without exhausting the subject; the brief scope afforded us in this sketch compels a condensation of the story of ages within the limits of a few sentences; but even a bare outline cannot be uninteresting to the readers of this work.

It was not until the Carboniferous Age followed a long succession of periods of growth that dry land appeared in Nebraska. Previous to this age the State lay many fathoms beneath a restless, illimitable, nameless ocean. It was during the Carboniferous Age that the vast deposits of coal underlying nearly every section of the country were formed. Nebraska, emerging from the waters at a later period

in this age, reaped a smaller share of its benefits. The carboniferous deposits are only found in the southeastern part of the State. They commence as far north as Fort Calhoun, in Washington County, and extend across the southern boundary of the State. The principal characteristics of this age, which covers a period of thousands, perhaps millions of years, were a remarkably luxuriant vegetation, abundant animal life, and a constantly cloudy, murky atmosphere. Had man existed in Nebraska at this remote period of its geological history, he would, of necessity, have been a semi-amphibious creature, roaming through interminable, almost impenetrable jungles of vegetation. He would have found hundreds of forms of vegetable life long since extinct. He would have noted the presence of ferns as large as our tallest trees, huge lepidodendriads with tough bark and pithy wood, tall sigillarias with fluted trunks and long, tapering, needle-like leaves. He would have subsisted principally on fishes and the lower forms of animal life. The sun would have been obscured from his vision by dense clouds of fogs and vapors, and he would undoubtedly have found life a burden which he would gladly have dispensed with. Coal, the sole valuable product of the Carboniferous Age, has been discovered in many places in Nebraska, but not in sufficiently large quantities to make the work of mining remunerative. The most valuable deposit as yet discovered is in Richardson County, where a vein

from eighteen to thirty inches in thickness has been worked to a limited extent. A fifteen-inch vein has been discovered near Nebraska City at a depth of 189 feet. At Lincoln, at a depth of 909 feet, a thirty-inch vein has been discovered. At Ponca, a vein four and a half feet thick has been discovered at a depth of 574 feet.

Passing out of the Carboniferous Age, Nebraska emerged into the Permian Age, in which the State was marvelously changed in appearance. The murky atmosphere gave way to clear skies, and the sun's warm rays exerted their influence on the soil. The continent had been upheaved and ranges of high mountains appeared on Nature's map of the State. The climate became more changeable, and the old forms of animal and vegetable life disappeared. It was a period of transition. Then dawned the Mesozoic Era. In this period the surface of Nebraska underwent many more startling changes. The land surface was measurably increased, and was more thoroughly drained. Vegetable and animal life again appeared. The surface of the State again became covered with thickets and forests, the vegetable types being those now found in tropical and semi-tropical latitudes. It was the Reptilian Age, and the huge animals that ranged the forests were of a kind that would have stricken terror to the heart of our friend of the Carboniferous period. Among these animals was the *Atlantosaurus immanis*, or giant lizard. It had a femur eight feet, four inches long, which would indicate an animal, when standing on all fours, thirty feet in height and one hundred feet in length. Other animals of this age were the reptilian birds, crocodiles, and a mammal resembling an opossum. This age was brought to a close by still further changes brought about in the earth's surface. The cooling globe was gradually contracting. The mountains, among them the Sierras, the Wasatch and the Rockies, were emerging from the sea. The waters which covered the western part of the continent were still further drained away. Then came the Cretaceous period, divided into the Dakota, Fort Benton, Niobrara, Fort Pierre and Fox Mills groups. During this period the land was gradually subsiding, and the climate becoming colder. In the times covered by the Fort Benton group deeper

waters and quieter seas had taken the place of shallow seas, extended sea beaches and flats and low islands. The Niobrara group epoch was marked by a still further subsidence of the continent. All but the southeastern part of Nebraska was covered by deep seas, which swarmed with fishes and mollusks. On the land the reptiles flourished in large numbers, over forty species being discovered. They ranged in size from twelve to seventy-five and one hundred feet in length. One tortoise discovered had a spread of fifteen feet. The flying reptiles also flourished in this age, and disputed the empire of the air with the birds, of which many species existed. Toward the close of the era represented by the Niobrara group a reverse movement of the continent commenced. Instead of subsiding, the land began a slow process of elevation. Animal life again became nearly extinct, not to appear again in Nebraska until the era represented by the Fort Pierre group had passed away, and a new era, represented by the Fox Mills group, appeared. In this era Nebraska was covered with huge forests and savannas. The land again swarmed with animal life. Then followed the Laramie epoch, during which the seas again covered the greater part of Nebraska, and the entire plain region of Colorado. The Laramie epoch was brought to a close by one of the greatest convulsions in the geological history of the globe. From the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains to the Wasatch range, the entire region was thrown up into a series of folds and undulations. The whole region of the plains sympathized in this movement. The elevation in the mountains became sufficient to give free drainage to the sea, and exclude the oceanic waters. The great interior sea which had tossed its restless billows over Nebraska for so many countless ages, was finally exterminated, never again to appear. The culmination of these stupendous changes inaugurated the Cenozoic Age, or the age of mammals, comprising two divisions, the Tertiary and the Quaternary. The Tertiary period is again divided into three epochs, the Eocene, the Miocene and the Pliocene, the two latter being represented in Nebraska. Passing over the Eocene epoch, which is of little interest to Nebraskans, we come to the Miocene epoch. In this epoch the physical condi-

tions first began to assume a modern air. Vegetable and animal life flourished in their higher forms. The forests of the Miocene epoch were composed of oaks, cottonwoods, willows, magnolias, cypress, sassafras, lindens, maples and pines. Geologists are of the opinion that the fig and palm trees also flourished here. The conditions of mammalian life were also extremely favorable. The horse family was represented by a number of species, elephants and mastodons roamed the forests, the camel made its appearance for the first time, and several species of monkeys chattered in the trees. Passing into the Pliocene epoch we find the conditions of animal and vegetable life much similar. Prof. Aughey, until recently the State geologist, has drawn a vivid picture of life in Nebraska during the Pliocene epoch. "Had we been in existence then," said he, "and started westward on a journey from some point near where the Missouri now flows, much of the peculiar life of the times would have been observed. The climate was congenial to an eminent degree. The great Pliocene lake caused a much moister atmosphere than exists at the present time. Groves of sequoias, like the present gigantic trees of California, the glyptastrobos of China and Japan, the cypress, the date and the palm, were interspersed with magnificent savannas. The songs of ten thousand birds, many of them of the most beautiful plumage, would have greeted our ears. At some places, herds of thousands of ovedons would have been encountered. Bisons, similar in form to our buffaloes, would have been seen cropping the grass. At other points might have been seen herds of elephants and mastodons quietly proceeding toward some streamlet, or lakelet, to indulge in a bath. Vast numbers of many species of camel would have been seen reposing at midday on a gentle hillside under the shade of sequoias or cypress. More curious than all, thousands of hyperions, those wonderful three-toed horses, along with many kinds of one-toed horses, of all sizes, would sometimes have made the earth tremble under their tread. When, at last, in such a westward journey, the shores of the great Pliocene lake would be reached, its borders would have been a marvel for the life represented there. A rhinoceros might have been

seen wallowing in the mud near the shore. Thousands of water-fowl would have been riding the gentle waves. Elephants, camels, ovedons and horses would have been seen there slaking their thirst in the streamlets flowing into the lake. Life would have been observed everywhere—the hum of insects and the song of birds in the air—life in the trees, in forest and glade, on land and lake. Most of it, too, was happy life. It is true, some unfortunate ruminants would fall victims to the gigantic wolves and cats of the time, but the carnivora were not the rulers of the land. Grass and leaf and seed and fruit eating animals were the rulers of the Pliocene world in Central North America. It was a physical paradise, for violence, rapine and murder were the exception, not the rule. Violence, indeed, has existed in every geological epoch, but in Pliocene America, herbivorous life was so dominant that it could successfully defend itself against the carnivora, and the latter evidently obtained the most of his prey by stealth, and by picking off the aged and infirm. Animal life is generally happy when left alone, and this was especially the case during American Pliocene times.

The Pliocene epoch, in which a happy state of affairs existed in the animal kingdom, continued for countless ages; but ever restless Nature was again at work. In the closing centuries of this epoch the great Pliocene lake was drained and its bed became dry land. The climate gradually became colder and the snows of winter accumulated too rapidly to be removed by the summer's warmth. This finally resulted in the glaciation of the plains of Nebraska. A thick mantle of ice covered the State and the glacial epoch was inaugurated. A vast sheet of ice, 3,000 feet in thickness, covered this entire region, moving southward at the rate of but a few inches a day and crushing out all animal and vegetable life in its irresistible progress. This vast sea of ice left in its path enormous beds of blue clay and other drift materials. Following the ice came the floods, bringing with them huge icebergs with loads of sand, gravel and boulders. Then followed a period of slow elevation, during which the waters were drained off and a new forest bed formed. Again the ice sheet advanced, crush-

ing out the magnificent forest growth. The retreat of the second ice sheet was followed by another subsidence, the land was again flooded and a lake occupied the plains. Then dawned the Loess epoch, the epoch in which Nebraska was prepared for the advent of man.

When the Loess era was inaugurated, the greater part of Nebraska was covered by a vast inland sea of fresh water. The waters of the lake were loaded with loess, a sediment left by the retreating glaciers. As the great lakes became filled up with this sediment they were gradually transformed into bogs and marshes. Isolated portions would first become dry land. After the first low islands appeared, they gradually increased in size and numbers until dry land conditions prevailed. The ponds and sloughs, some of which are almost lakes, still in existence, are probably the last remains of these great lakes. The rising of the land continuing, the rivers began to cut new channels through the middle of the old lake beds. This drained the marshes and formed the bottom lands, as the rivers of that period covered the whole of the present flood plains from bluff to bluff. It was then, when the bluffs were new and plastic, that they were first sculptured by rains into their present unique forms. The Missouri, during the closing centuries of the Loess epoch, must have been from five to thirty miles in breadth. The Platte, Niobrara and Republican Rivers covered their respective flood plains in the same way. In the smaller streams of the State, those that originated within or near the Loess deposits, such as the Elkhorn, Loup, Bow, Blue and Nemahas, we see the same general form of flood plains as on the larger rivers, and no doubt their waters were also covered with water during this period.

It was during the Loess epoch in the history of the continent that man made his first appearance. Stone arrow heads and other human relics have been discovered in undisturbed loess deposits. Animal life also flourished in this epoch. The remains of rabbits, gophers, otters, beavers, squirrels, deer, elk and buffalo are frequently discovered. The remains of elephants and mastodons are also abundant. According to the most reasonable estimates, the Loess epoch covered a period of 19,200 years

before it was merged into the Terrace epoch. When the rivers covered the whole of the existing bottoms, and had the old Loess lake bed for a flood plain, the land still lay far below its present level, and was in the transition stage between the Loess and Terrace epochs. When the elevation became a little greater, and the drainage better, and the volume of water less, it cut a new channel amid its old bed, which now constitutes its flood plain. This formed the first terrace and inaugurated this epoch. Here the land and the river must have stood for ages. Again there was an upward movement, the drainage became still better, the volume of water lessened and another channel formed. Thus terrace after terrace formed, each representing a stage of quiet in the upward movement of the land.

In the foregoing pages the reader has had a rapid sketch of the several geological eras that elapsed before Nebraska was considered by an all-wise Creator inhabitable for man. A subject which should fill volumes is merely glanced at in order to round out the sketch of Nebraska's history. The student who would read the story of the rocks will find the records accessible, and he will find it, indeed, a most interesting branch of study.

Nebraska is one of the largest States of the Union. It contains an area of 76,895 square miles, or 49,212,000 acres. The extreme length of the State is 413 miles, and the extreme width, 208. The general surface of the State has been compared to a recently drained lake bed. The greater part of the State is a plateau, with an average elevation of 2,312 feet above the level of the sea. Along the south line of the State, the elevation of the eastern half averages 1,200 feet; the western half 2,672 feet. Along the northern line of the State the elevation of the eastern half is 1,353 feet; the western half 3,525. West from Omaha the ascent is at the rate of five and one-half feet to the mile for 100 miles. The second hundred miles increases the ascent to seven feet; the third hundred, seven and a half feet to the mile; and the fourth hundred to ten and a half feet to the mile. The ascent on the last fifty miles at the west end of the State is eighteen feet to the mile. "To gain a clear conception of Nebraska topography," writes Prof. Samuel Aughey, in his

treatise on the Physical and Natural Features of Nebraska, "one must cross the valleys and divides nearly at right angles. In doing this it will be observed that the most rolling lands generally border the valleys or bottoms. Advancing, the rolling and sometimes broken character gradually disappears, when the divide is reached which separates the last from the next drainage system. Here the land swells out into a gently undulating plain that varies extremely in extent. The extent of such a divide may be limited to a half-mile, or may extend for thirty or more miles. These swells or long tongues of undulating lands are found on the divides between nearly all the rivers of the State. Occasionally, between the lesser streams, a single low bluff, a few hundred feet wide, and only slightly raised above the general level, marks the divide. Among the most conspicuous of these divides are the beautiful uplands between the Republican and the Platte, between the Platte and the Blue Rivers, and between the forks of the Blue Rivers. Between the Blues and the Nemahas and between the forks of the latter similar divides exist. North of the Platte, conspicuous for their beauty, are the divides between the forks of the Elkhorn and the headwaters, and between the forks of the Logan, and between the Elkhorn and the Loups. In fact, they are met with between most of the streams of the State. Some of these high uplands have great numbers of shallow, basin-shaped depressions, whose soil and grasses greatly resemble those of the bottom lands. They are evidently the remains of lakes that until recently occupied their sites. Indeed, some of them still retain this character, being filled with water the whole year round, varying from one to ten feet in depth. Between these last and swamps and bogs every kind of transition form is found. Fillmore, Clay, York, Hamilton, Franklin, Phillips and Wayne Counties have a notable number of these old lake beds.

Nothing is more surprising than the amazing number of valley or bottom lands. They must be numbered by the thousand. Take the Republican as an example. On an average a tributary valley comes into the bottom from the north side every two miles. Now, as this river flows for 200 miles

through the State, it would give 100 for this section alone. Counting, however, the streams that come in from the south side, and those flowing into its larger tributaries, this number should be multiplied by four, giving 400 valleys, great and small, for this region alone. Now, add to these valleys those that are tributary to the Platte, the Blues, the Nemahas, the Elkhorns, the Logan, the Bows, the Missouri, between its larger tributaries, the Niobrara and the Loups, and it will increase the number to thousands. It is true that many of them are narrow, ranging from one-fourth to a mile in width, but still they are valleys, with living or extinct stream beds in the middle or towards one side of them, and having all the physical features of the larger river bottoms. As already intimated there are a few minor valleys among the smaller tributaries of the Upper Elkhorns, Bazile, Loups, Niobrara and Republican, in the stream beds of which water no longer flows: but, as will be shown further on, many of them are regaining—and all of them will in time—their former supply of water. Thus can be seen why, over the larger part of Nebraska, the settler can have his choice between bottom and upland. The great body of these bottom lands, though composed of the richest mold and modified alluvium and loess materials, are perfectly dry. It is true that swamps are occasionally met with, but they occur at long intervals and are the exception.

There are no large lakes in Nebraska, but there are, however, a large number of small bodies of water, the largest one, northwest of Dakota City, being about five miles in length. Water beneath the surface is abundant, and is reached at depths ranging from twelve to 125 feet. Up to the present writing artesian water has been reached in but two localities, although a number of deep wells have been bored in various parts of the State. At Omaha an artesian well 750 feet deep furnishes a fine supply of good water. At Lincoln another well 1,050 feet deep furnishes a constant flow of saline and mineral water. At the present writing (January, 1890) a company is sinking a deep well at Hastings, in the hopes of discovering coal, salt, natural gas, oil, or artesian water. At a depth of 250 feet a thick deposit of yellow ochre was reached. At a depth of

945 feet a heavy deposit of salt was discovered. The operations at Hastings are still in progress, it being the intention to bore to a depth of 4,000 feet if possible.

The rivers of Nebraska are numerous, and are distinguished for their width, shallowness, and the rapid flow of their currents. The Missouri River is a deep stream with a rapid current, navigable for barge boats for many hundred miles north of Omaha. It performed a vast service to the State in the days before the advent of the railroads, as it was the highway of travel and traffic for all coming to the Territory. Next to the Missouri comes the Platte River, one of the most erratic streams in the country. It flows through the entire length of the State from west to east, dividing it into two unequal portions. Its length from its source in the Rocky Mountains to its confluence with the Missouri River is about 1,200 miles. In some places the Platte is nearly a mile wide, and in other places it separates into five or more separate channels. In some portions of the year the river is almost entirely dry; not because the supply of water is undiminished, but because the water disappears in the sandy bed of the stream, from whence it is drained (according to the theory of Prof. Aughey) to the Republican River.

The Republican River, next in importance in Nebraska to the Platte, has its source in Colorado. In general characteristics the Republican is very similar to its big sister, the Platte, in that it is shallow, sandy and has a rapid current. Of an entirely different character is the Niobrara River. From its source in Wyoming to its mouth, the Niobrara is 460 miles long. For a distance of 189 miles it flows, a deep and rapid stream, through a canon, the walls of which are high and steep. After emerging from the canon the Niobrara more nearly resembles the Platte, its bed being broad and sandy, and full of quicksands.

The Elkhorn River is one of the most beautiful and picturesque streams in the State. It rises in the northwestern part of the State in a region dotted by a large number of small, fresh-water lakes. From its source to its mouth the main river is about 250 miles in length, and for the most part of this distance it is a rapid, clear and deep stream. It

empties into the Platte in Sarpy County, and for a large part of its course flows over a rock bottom. One of the principal tributaries of the Elkhorn is the Logan River, which has its source in Cedar County. Of the several branches of the Logan it is difficult to tell which is the longest, or which deserves the distinction of being the principal stream. They all originate in bogs or old filled-up lake beds. The general direction of these Logan Rivers is southeast until Burt County is reached, after which it is south until it unites with the Elkhorn in Dodge County.

The Nemaha Rivers consist of the main stream, the North Branch and the Little Nemaha. The North Branch runs in a southeasterly direction diagonally through Johnson and Richardson Counties until it unites with the main river in the latter county. Its length is about sixty miles, and increases regularly in size from its source to its mouth, by the addition of numerous tributaries. The main Nemaha has its source in Pawnee County, takes a southerly direction into Kansas, then turns northeast into Richardson County, and then flows a little southeast until it empties into the Missouri, in the southeast portion of the State. Its length is but sixty miles, but it receives so many comparatively large tributaries that its magnitude at the end of its course is much greater than many longer rivers. The bottom lands are broad, beautifully terraced, and the bordering bluffs are beautifully rounded off. The Little Nemaha is a smaller edition of the Big Nemaha, and has also numerous tributaries.

The Blue Rivers are among the most important as well as among the best known in the South Platte portion of the State. The Big Blue is 132 miles in length, and drains eight of the richest, most fertile counties of the State. The Middle Fork rises in Hamilton County, and unites with the North Blue at Seward. It is about sixty miles in length. The West Fork unites with the Big Blue in Saline County. All of the Blue Rivers are remarkable for the amount of water they carry off, and the great beauty of the bottom lands through which they pass. Still another Blue River rises in Adams County, and passes out of the State in Jefferson County, and finally, in Kansas, unites with the Big Blue. It

is a handsome stream, and in addition to numerous small streams is furnished with large supplies of water by the numerous springs which line its banks.

Other important systems of water courses are the Loup Rivers, in the northern half of the State. The Middle Loup River rises within fifty miles of the north line of the State and flows a distance of about 250 miles before emptying into the Platte near Columbus. The North Loup rises within forty-five miles of the north line of the State, is 150 miles long and empties into the Middle Loup in the eastern part of Howard County. The South Loup rises near the western boundary of Custer County and empties into the Middle Loup in the southwestern part of Howard County.

There are numerous smaller rivers and streams in Nebraska not enumerated in the foregoing pages. Among the most important of these are the Bow Rivers, in Northeastern Nebraska, the Weeping Water, in Cass County, Salt Creek, in Lancaster County, the Wahoo, in Saunders County, Elk Creek, in Dakota County, and South and West Iowa Creeks, in Dixon County. All possess more or less the characteristics of Nebraska streams. A study of a complete topographical map of Nebraska demonstrates the fact that the State is plentifully supplied with streams of pure running water. Every county in the State has a bountiful supply of water, a fact which sufficiently accounts for the magnitude of its agricultural interests.

Geological research has demonstrated the fact that at one time Nebraska was heavily timbered with a varied forest vegetation. But the operations of time have caused the disappearance of the beautiful forests, until now Nebraska is a prairie State, the forest area comprising but a comparatively small portion of the State. Seventy-one species of trees and ninety-one species of shrubs exist in their native state to-day. Among the trees are the linwood, maple, locusts, wild cherry, ash of four species, four species of elms, walnuts, hickories, twelve species and varieties of oaks, many species of willows, four of cottonwood, and a number of pines and cedars. The native wild fruits known to exist are the plum, cherry, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, currants, gooseberry and others. Walnuts, hickory and hazel nuts are common.

Previous to the advent of the white man, Nebraska was a paradise for wild animals. Countless herds of buffalo roamed the plains, and elk and deer were abundant. But the buffalo has become entirely extinct, while the elk and deer have almost entirely disappeared. Altogether, eighty-two species of mammals are native to Nebraska. The bird fauna is much more remarkably developed, there being not less than 249 distinct species. Of fishes, only thirty-four species have been recognized. Of the insects, nearly 9,000 different species are known to exist, the injurious species being few, and not unusually destructive.



CHAPTER VI.

THE EXPLORATION OF NEBRASKA—EARLY VISITORS—GOVERNMENT EXPEDITIONS—VALUABLE EXTRACT BY JUDGE SAVAGE—NEBRASKA AS A TERRITORY—FIRST OFFICIALS—DEATH OF GOV. BURT—FORMATION INTO COUNTIES—EARLY LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS—POPULATION IN 1855—THE "FLORENCE SECESSION"—THE SLAVERY QUESTION CONSIDERED—THE TERRITORY IN 1861—NUMEROUS ACTS AND MEASURES OF INTEREST—ANXIETY TO BECOME A STATE.

About me round I saw
Hill, dale and shady woods, and sunny plains,
And liquid lapse of murm'ring streams.—*Milton.*

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NEBRASKA was visited many times by various expeditions and individuals during the time that intervened between the cession of Louisiana to the United States and the formal erection of the Territory in 1854. Lewis and Clarke headed a government expedition in 1804-45, and made a thorough exploration of the Missouri River. They spent some days on Nebraska soil, at the mouth of the Platte and in the vicinity of Omaha and Bellevue. Their journal contains many references to the Indian tribes inhabiting this region, which will be found in the chapter of this work devoted to the Indian history of the Territory. In 1805 Manuel Lisa, a member of the Missouri Fur Company, visited Nebraska, making an extended tour of the northern part of the State along the Missouri, cultivating the friendship of the natives and making arrangements for the establishment of trading expeditions. In 1808 an expedition sent out by the Missouri Fur Company, under the command of Major Henry, visited the same country. In 1811 a party of men belonging to

Hunt's expedition to the mouth of the Columbia River, on their return from the Pacific, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and descended the Platte River to its mouth. In the following year, three men named Stewart, McClellen and Crooks made a similar trip on their way from the Pacific coast to New York.

In 1819 the War Department of the United States fitted out an expedition and placed it under the command of Maj. S. A. Long, of the regular army. The principal object of the expedition was to prepare a topographical description of the country west of the Missouri River. Maj. Long and his party reached the mouth of the Big Nemaha early in September, 1819, and the mouth of the Platte the 15th of that month. Near the mouth of the Platte was found a trading post named Fort Lisa. A short distance from this fort, the expedition went into winter quarters. During the winter the adjacent country was examined and many friendly conferences held with the Indian tribes in the vicinity. On June 6, 1820, the expedition started up the Platte Valley. The excursion to the headwaters of the Platte lasted until the latter part of July. In the year 1835, Col. Henry Dodge, of the United States army, traced the Platte River from its mouth to its source, in a search for data for a topographical description of the country. In 1842 John C. Fre-

mont made his first exploration of Nebraska. His exploration was confined largely to the South Platte country, and was much more elaborate than any previously undertaken. He made a similar exploration in the following year.

An extract from an interesting and valuable article read before the Nebraska State Historical Society on January 14, 1890, by Judge James W. Savage, is worthy of mention in this portion of the present volume. The extract is as follows:

..In the sixth volume of his collections of manuscript documents relating to America, by M. Pierre Margey, the distinguished historical investigator of France, is given a brief synopsis of an account of a visit in the year 1739 to the territory now included in the State of Nebraska, which seems worthy of a translation or paraphrase, and a place in the records of the historical society of our State. It is entitled 'The Journey of the Mallet Brothers with Six Other Frenchmen from the River of the Panimahas in the Missouri Country to Santa Fe.' To comprehend the full significance of the expedition it will be useful to recall to our minds the jealousies, the rivalries, the contests, the treacheries, the massacres, the assassinations, the crimes of all sorts which the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries witnessed as the result of the discoveries by Columbus.

..Spain, reasonably secure in her possession of the country west of the deserts beyond the Mississippi which the valor and prowess of Cortez had given her, laid claim also by virtue of the revelations of the Genoese navigator to the whole of Florida, under which attractive name was comprehended the entire region from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and from the gulf to the north pole. France, grudging the glory and the wealth with which the new world had adorned the crown of Charles the Fifth, entrusted to Verrazzano the task of finding the opulent kingdom of Cathay, and as a result of his discoveries laid claim to the same extensive country. The hostility thus begun lasted for more than two centuries.

..The French complained with indignation that the Spaniards thought that the new world was created expressly for them, and that no other man living

had a right to move or breathe therein. The bitterness engendered by these rival interests led to the atrocities of Menendez and Gourgues, the butcheries of Fort Caroline and St. Augustine, at the narrative of which the blood still runs cold. That the slaughter was committed in the name of the founder of the religion of peace, adds darker shadows to the sombre stories of those days. One mild and gentle apostle addressed the king in these words: 'It is lawful that your majesty, like a good shepherd appointed by the hand of the Eternal Father, should tend and lead out your sheep, since the Holy Spirit has shown spreading pastures whereon are feeding lost sheep which have been snatched away by the dragon, the demon. These pastures are the new world, wherein is comprised Florida, now in possession of the demon, and he makes himself adored and revealed. This is the land of promise possessed by idolaters, the Amorite, the Amalekite, Moabite, Canaanite. This is the land promised by the Eternal Father to the faithful, since we are commanded by God in the holy scriptures to take it from them, being idolaters, and by reason of their idolatry and sin to put them to the knife, leaving no living thing except maidens and children, their cities robbed and sacked, their walls and houses levelled to the earth.'

..For many long years the struggle between France and Spain for this fairest portion of the new world continued. Neither was destined to succeed. The pompous expeditions of both nations, their blasphemous proclamations, their costly settlements—all gave way in time to the simple beginnings on the banks of the James and the coast of New England. Still, for a long time after the Spaniards were confined to Mexico, and the French to Canada and the Mississippi Valley, the same suspicions, jealousies, rivalries and antagonisms continued. If the French made a move in one quarter the Spaniards endeavored to meet it by a counter stroke in another. If one nation established a trading post in the wilderness, the other sought to seduce its servants and to render the enterprise abortive. Spies and other emissaries abounded everywhere. With an austere display of peace on both sides there were constant suspicion and constant watchfulness. In a letter from Bienville, governor of Louisiana, dated

April 25, 1752, he says that he learns from the savages of the Missouri that the Spaniards meditated an establishment on the Kansas River, and that he had ordered *Sieur de Boisbriant* to prevent this by sending a detachment of twenty soldiers to build a little fort and to remain in garrison on that river.

"Such was the situation in the years 1739-40, when the expedition, to which I invite a few minutes' attention, started from what is now Nebraska to Santa Fe. What we know of this journey is meagre and fragmentary in a most provoking degree, consisting solely of an abridgment or synopsis of a journal kept by one of the travelers for the perusal of *Gov. de Bienville* at New Orleans. The summary or table of its contents is as follows: 'The brothers Mallet, with six other Frenchmen, leaving the river of the Panimahas discover the river Platte, visit the villages of the Salitane nation, and reach Santa Fe.' The names of those who composed this venturesome band were Peter and Paul Mallet, Philip Robitaille, Louis Moriu (or as the name is sometimes written, Moreau), Michael Beslot, Joseph Bellecourt, Manuel Gallien and Jean David. All except the last, who was from the mother-country, were Canadians of French parentage. The ostensible object of their trip was to establish trade with the merchants of New Mexico. What secret instructions, if any, they had, or what their real purpose was, is no where involved in their memorial, and will probably never be more than conjectured, but that the Spaniards were at least doubtful as to their character seems clear. About 100 years later, and long after Louisiana had become the property of the United States, an expedition starting from Texas with the same pretense of amity and social intercourse received but scant courtesy from the Mexicans, and it is not probable that the latter were less on their guard against their hereditary enemies, the French.

"The little band, at the time when the journal was introduced to them, had reached the nation of the Panimahas, with whom the French were on friendly terms, living on a river of the same name. It may be considered as a fact, established by papers already published in the collections of this society, that the Panimahas were the tribe since known as

the Pawnees, and the Panimaha River was the stream now called the Loup Fork.

"From a point on the Loup, not far from where Genoa is now situated, the Mallet brothers took their departure on the 29th of May, 1739. Those who, prior to that time, had essayed to make the same hazardous journey, had supposed that New Mexico was situated on the headwaters of the Missouri, and had therefore attempted to reach that country by following up the course of the last mentioned stream. But the Mallet brothers, upon the advice of some of their savage allies, determined to seek New Mexico by taking a southwesterly direction across the country. Accordingly, pursuing this course, they came on the third day to a wide and shallow river which (and here I follow the exact language of the original) they named the Platte. So far as I know, or can ascertain, this was the first time our wandering stream had received an appellation in a Christian tongue. Other adventurous bush-rangers thereafter translated other titles, and *L'Eau-qui-court*, *L'Eau-qui-pleure*, the *Papillion*, the *Chadron*, the *Loup* and others will long retain, it is to be hoped, the soft and musical nomenclature of the Gallic race. But who named them, and when, are as yet as difficult to answer as the question Achilles assumed when he hid himself among women. This one fact alone has survived this century and a half that has elapsed since the daring enterprise of these Canadian French.

"They struck the Platte probably in the vicinity of Kearney—at any rate at some point where the general course of the stream was toward the north-east or east, for we read that the explorers, finding that it did not deviate materially from the route they had chosen, followed it up for the distance of twenty-eight leagues, where they found that the river of the Padoncas emptied into it. This river of the Padoncas was unquestionably the South Fork of the Platte, and it is noteworthy that on one of Colton's maps of the United States, published in 1862, the stream is still called the Padonca. For three days afterward the brothers Mallet ascended the North Fork of the Platte, until on the 13th of June, finding that its course was leading them to the northwest instead of the direction they had determined upon, they turned

to the left, crossed the North Fork, traversed the tongue of land made by the two branches, and encamped on the shores of a river which must have been the South Fork.

"It is not easy to identify with absolute certainty the water courses which in the next few days they seem to have crossed. From their journal has been eliminated all matter except such as would enable an engineer officer to direct the march of an army over the same course. It is manifest, however, that they crossed several affluents and the main current of the Republican, marching over a treeless country, which supplied barely wood enough for cooking purposes, and recording that these bare plains extended as far as the mountains in the vicinity of Santa Fe. On the 20th they reached and crossed a deep and rapid river, losing in the operation seven horses laden with merchandise. This stream they say was the Kansas. Again they entered upon the prairies bare of trees, dependent upon buffalo chips for their fuel, encamping nearly every night by a water-course, until on the 30th of June, they pitched their tents upon the banks of the Arkansas River, where for the first time they came upon traces of Spanish occupation."

Although the act creating the Territory of Nebraska became a law on May 30, 1854, it was not until October of that year that the officers appointed by President Pierce reached Bellevue, then the only pretentious village in the Territory. These officers were: Secretary, Thomas B. Cuming, of Iowa; chief justice, Fenner Ferguson, of Michigan; associate justices, James Bradley, of Indiana, and Edward R. Hardin, of Georgia; marshal, Mark W. Izard, of Arkansas; attorney, Experience Estabrook, of Wisconsin. Gov. Burt was a Southern gentleman of birth and education, and was a man of sterling integrity and unblemished reputation. Before receiving his appointment as governor of the Territory of Nebraska he had held important public positions, both in his own State and in Washington. He was a man who would undoubtedly have left his impress upon the history of Nebraska had his life been spared; but his visit was destined to be of brief duration, for he died within a few days after his arrival. The governor and his party

arrived at Bellevue on October 7, 1854. The journey from the east had been a severe one for Gov. Burt, and he was taken sick at St. Louis. In spite of his illness, however, he pursued his journey, arriving at Bellevue in bad condition. He was made as comfortable as possible at the Presbyterian Mission, then in charge of Rev. William Hamilton, and medical aid summoned from Omaha and Council Bluffs; but all the efforts in his behalf were unavailing, and he died on October 18, just eleven days after his arrival at Bellevue, and twenty-one days after being taken ill at St. Louis. By virtue of his office, Secretary Thomas B. Cuming became acting governor. Mr. Cuming assumed the duties of the office at once, and on October 18, issued the first proclamation promulgated in the new Territory. It contained the official announcement of the death of Gov. Burt. In the proclamation Acting Governor Cuming referred to the efforts made to save the life of Gov. Burt, and directed that the National colors within the Territory be draped in mourning.

The news of the death of Gov. Burt cast a gloom over the Territory. Resolutions of regret and condolence were adopted and published in the only two papers published in the Territory, and the President of the United States notified. The funeral services were held at Bellevue on October 19, after which the remains were taken to South Carolina by Barton Green, Ward B. Howard, James Doyle and W. R. Jones. Thus closed the first tragedy in the official life of the new Territory.

No sooner had the proper respects been paid to the memory of the Territory's distinguished dead, than the affairs of the living pushed themselves into prominence. A capital for the new Territory was to be selected, and the wheels of government put in motion. The ambitious citizens of Bellevue, Florence, Omaha, Nebraska City and Plattsmouth entered into a fierce competition for the seat of government. After due consideration of the claims of the rival towns, Acting Governor Cuming decided to locate the capital at Omaha, although Bellevue was retained as the official place of residence until January, 1855, in which month the first session of the Territorial Legislature met at Omaha. In a proclamation issued December 20, 1854, the acting

governor designated Omaha as the capital, and called the first session of the Legislature to meet at that city on the 16th day of January, 1855. Previously to this, however, a census of the Territory had been taken by order of the acting governor, and an election called for. The census revealed a population of 2,732. The Territory was divided into eight counties, which were designated as Burt, Washington, Douglas, Dodge, Cass, Pierce, Forney and Richardson. The membership of the first Legislature was divided as follows:

Burt County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

Washington County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

Douglas County—Four Councilmen, eight Representatives.

Dodge County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

Cass County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

Pierce County—Three Councilman, five Representatives.

Forney County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

Richardson County—One Councilman, two Representatives.

On December 12, 1854, the first general election in the new Territory was held. It resulted in the selection of Napoleon B. Giddings as the Territorial delegate to Congress.

The first session of the Territorial Legislature convened in a two-story brick building erected at Omaha for its reception, at 10 o'clock A. M., January 16, 1855. A temporary organization of the Council was effected by the election of Hiram P. Bennett, of Pierce County, president, *pro tem*. A committee on credentials, consisting of Joseph L. Sharp, James C. Mitchell and Lafayette Nuckolls, was appointed and an adjournment taken until two o'clock P. M. The Representatives also effected a similar organization by electing John M. Latham, of Cass County, speaker, and J. W. Paddock, chief clerk, *pro tem*. At 2 o'clock P. M., of the same day, both Houses of the Legislature convened in joint session to listen to the first gubernatorial mes-

sage. Acting Governor Cuming alluded feelingly to the untimely death of Gov. Burt. The principal part of the message was devoted to a discussion of the Pacific Railway. Its importance to the welfare of the new Territory was debated upon and a strong argument made in favor of the Platte Valley route—an argument which has been fully vindicated by the completion of the great railway system along the route indicated.

The first Nebraska Legislature was not, in all respects, a model one. But, considering the somewhat chaotic condition of affairs in the Territory, it made a fair beginning, and there was much accomplished in the way of legislation that was worthy of commendation.

The local machinery of government was provided for and county officers created. The criminal code of Iowa, with some slight, necessary alterations, was adopted for the regulation of the new Territory. The capital was formally and officially located at Omaha. Nor were the educational interests of the young commonwealth lost sight of. Three institutions of learning, viz.: The Simpson University, at Omaha; the Nebraska University, at Fontanelle, and the Collegiate and Preparatory Institute, at Nebraska City, were incorporated. Among the notable transactions of this, the first session of Nebraska's Legislature, was the favorable report, by M. H. Clark, chairman of the Council committee on corporation, on the bill chartering the Platte Valley and Pacific Railroad Company, a proposed line which has since become one of the greatest commercial highways of the world.

In the meantime, President Pierce had appointed Mark M. Izard, of Arkansas, to succeed Gov. Burt. Gov. Izard arrived at Omaha on February 20, 1855, and took the oath of office three days later.

There was much to be done, even after the adjournment of the Legislature. Gov. Izard at once took steps looking to the establishment of the affairs of the Territory on a firmer and more substantial basis. In the year 1855 a formal census of all the white persons in the Territory was taken, which disclosed the fact that 4,491 people had taken up their permanent residence in Nebraska. In that year the several towns in the Territory began to assume bet-

ter proportions. Society became settled, and matters assumed a less transient aspect. The second session of the Legislature assembled on December 18, 1855. In his annual message, Gov. Izard alluded to the progress of the work on the capitol, which was rapidly approaching completion. The progress of the Territorial surveys, under the direction of Surveyor General Calhoun, was spoken of, and many other matters pertaining to the needs of the Territory referred to. The Territory made considerable progress during the year 1856. The boundary lines of the counties were established by the Legislature. A road from Omaha to Fort Kearney was surveyed and its construction commenced. The second session of the Legislature also provided for the common school system of the State. The real and personal property of the Territory was assessed, and another census taken, which revealed the presence of 10,716 inhabitants.

The third session of the Legislature assembled on January 5, 1857. The Territorial machinery had now been in operation two entire years, and matters seemed to be passing along smoothly. In his annual message, Gov. Izard congratulated the citizens of the Territory upon their prosperity. The following excerpt from his message is quoted as being a fair idea of the condition of the Territory at that time. Gov. Izard says: "We can boast of a population of more than 15,000 intelligent, orderly and energetic citizens, who can challenge comparison with those of any State or Territory of the Union; of flourishing towns and prosperous cities, with their handsome church edifices, well-regulated schools and busy streets; of our broad and beautiful prairies, being thickly dotted with comfortable farm houses and well-cultivated fields, yielding their rich treasures to the hand of peaceful industry. The appreciation of property far exceeds the expectation of the most sanguine. Business lots upon the streets where the wild grass still flourishes are readily commanding from \$500 to \$3,000 each; lands adjacent to our most prosperous towns sell readily at from \$50 to \$400 per acre; credit is almost unknown in our business circles; no citizen oppressed by debt or crippled in his energies by the hand of penny and want; but all, encouraged by the success of the

past, look forward to the future with eager hope and bright anticipations."

It was during this, the third session of the Legislature, that the first attempt to remove the capital from Omaha occurred. A bill was passed locating the capital at "Douglas," a proposed town in a proposed county. Gov. Izard promptly vetoed the bill and thus killed the first attempt at removal.

The most striking piece of legislation accomplished by the third session was the passage of the bill repealing the criminal code, leaving the Territory without a law against crime or misdemeanor of any character. As a piece of ill-advised legislation it stands unparalleled in the history of Nebraska Territory. It may be said, to the personal credit of Gov. Izard, that he vetoed the bill; but that the Legislature passed it over his veto.

The fourth session of the Legislature, which convened on December 8, 1857, was destined to be a memorable one in the history of the young Territory, for it was during this session that a majority of the members withdrew and attempted to set up a new government at Florence. The division in the Legislature resulted from the renewal of the attempts to remove the capital from Omaha. The following brief extract from the official report of the "Florence secession" will give the reader a clear view of the facts concerning that somewhat extraordinary affair: "On the morning of January 7, 1858, the House went into committee of the whole to ostensibly consider a joint resolution, making it obligatory on the Legislature to award the printing of the Territory to some one established in the business within the limits of Nebraska, but really, as claimed by the friends of the removal scheme, to filibuster to prevent the consideration of the capital bill. The speaker, James H. Decker, withdrew from the House, with his friends. Thirteen members remained in session, and when the committee rose, J. S. Morton was chosen speaker, *pro tem*. Asking leave to sit again, the committee reported their work unfinished, and the session was declared adjourned. The following morning, the 8th, the House met, and, on motion of Mr. Donelan, to adjourn to meet at Florence, the session was declared adjourned by Speaker Decker. Thereupon all but thirteen mem-

bers quitted the chamber. Mr. Morton then nominated Mr. Poppleton as speaker *pro tem*. The minority then adjourned to meet at the regular place of holding session, on the next day at 9 o'clock A. M. The infection spread to the Council, where, on the 8th. Mr. Reeves moved that the Council adjourn to meet at Florence on the succeeding morning. President George L. Miller declined to entertain the motion upon the ground that, under the organic act, no such adjournment could take place without the concurrent action of both Houses and the official sanction of the governor. Mr. Reeves appealed from this ruling, and, by a vote of 8 to 4, the ruling was not sustained. The president still refused to entertain the motion, and Mr. Reeves, standing in his place, put the motion, and it was carried by a vote of 8 to 4. The eight members thereupon left the chamber."

The Florence secession, as a matter of course, effectually blocked all further legislation in that session. The seceding branch went through the formality of holding daily sessions at Florence; but they accomplished nothing in the way of legislation. The minority branch met at Omaha from day to day until the session expired, on January 16, by limitation.

Thomas B. Cuming, who for a second time was serving the people of the Territory as acting governor—Gov. Izard having resigned—declined to issue an order requested by the seceding branch, compelling the "minority Legislature," to deliver to the majority the books and documents necessary for the proper transaction of business. Thus matters stood until January 12, when Gov. Richardson, Izard's successor, arrived at Omaha and assumed the duties of the office. Although waited upon by a delegation from the seceding branch of the Legislature, Gov. Richardson declined to give that body any satisfaction. He advised the seceding members to return to Omaha, and assured them that their interests as well as themselves would be fully protected. The Legislature adjourned on January 16, before Gov. Richardson's invitation was accepted. A few months later, on August 14, Gov. Richardson issued a proclamation calling the Legislature to meet in special session on September 21. In his

proclamation, the Governor alluded to the fact that the disagreement between the warring factions, in the preceding session, had left the Territory without a criminal code, and to other matters of importance to the inhabitants of the Territory.

The special session, which is known as the fifth session of the Territorial Legislature, assembled at Omaha on September 21, 1858, and was organized by the election of the following officers: House: H. P. Bennett, speaker; E. G. McNeely, chief clerk. Council: H. L. Bowen, president; S. M. Curran, chief clerk. One of the first acts of the session was the adoption of resolutions upon the death of Thomas B. Cuming, secretary of the Territory, which occurred on March 12, 1858. His life, character and distinguished services to the Territory were fittingly referred to in the following words: "Thomas B. Cuming was appointed secretary of the Territory of Nebraska, by Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, and entered at once upon the discharge of the duties of the office, arriving here in the month of September, 1854. By the untimely decease of Gov. Burt, he succeeded to the supreme executive, and became acting governor of the Territory. How ably he filled that office those living can testify. In the organization of the first Legislature, surrounded as he was by conflicting elements, threatened by fierce and contending factions, standing in imminent danger of even personal violence, he wavered not once in his fealty to the general government, nor in his fidelity to the trust imposed in him. Throughout the duration of those troublesome times he pursued a policy, the sagacity of which was proved by its success, and the wisdom of which is evidenced by the present prosperous condition of the Territory which he governed."

Upon the death of Secretary Cuming, John B. Motley performed the duties of the office until July 12, when J. Sterling Morton, who had been appointed, assumed the office.

The most interesting feature of the fifth session of the Legislature was the first contest over the abolition of slavery in the Territory. On November 1, Representative S. G. Daily introduced a bill "to abolish slavery in the Territory of Nebraska."

It was referred to a special committee, consisting of S. G. Daily, James Stewart, John Taffe, D. P. Rankin and William C. Fleming. Two reports were submitted by the committee, the majority report being favorable and the minority unfavorable. After a very brief discussion the bill was laid upon the table and not taken up again during the session. But the friends of abolition were not to be deterred from their purpose of making Nebraska a free State in name as well as in fact.

The sixth session of the Territorial Legislature convened on December 5, 1859. In the interim between the fifth and sixth sessions, Gov. Richardson had resigned his office. Secretary J. Sterling Morton assumed the executive functions until May 2, 1859, when Gov. Samuel W. Black arrived to take the office. Gov. Black delivered his first message to the sixth session on the day following its opening. The following facts gleaned from his first message will be of interest as showing the growth and progress of the Territory: "This Territory was organized on May 30, 1854, and the first Legislature met at Omaha on January 16, 1855. In that body eight counties were represented. Now, at the expiration of less than five years, twenty-three counties have their Representatives in the Legislature, and thirty-five counties have been fully organized or their boundaries defined by law. The lands in Nebraska actually surveyed amount to 8,851,758 acres. The surveys have been extended from the dividing line between Kansas and Nebraska, on the fortieth parallel, to the latitude of 42 degrees, 51 minutes, while the average depth of the Missouri River is about 140 miles."

The sixth Legislature was noted by the renewal of the contest over the slavery question, and by the first attempt to form a State government. Strictly speaking, Nebraska was not a slave Territory. The bill erecting the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska left the slavery question to the decision of the citizens of those Territories. The contest over the question of slavery was a bitter one in Kansas; but, owing to her geographical location, Nebraska did not offer a promising field for the extension of slavery. The first official census, taken in 1854, revealed the presence of thirteen slaves. Most of

them were brought to the Territory by the officials coming from slave States, and it is probably the fact that their servitude was almost voluntary. We have already noted the failure of the first attempt to abolish slavery in Nebraska. The friends of the movement did not long remain idle. On Wednesday, December 7, 1859, the third day of the sixth session of the Territorial Legislature, William H. Taylor introduced in the Council a bill "to abolish and prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude." It was referred to a special committee consisting of William H. Taylor, George W. Doane and George L. Miller. On December 12, two reports were submitted from the committee, one by Mr. Taylor and one by Mr. Miller. In his report, Mr. Taylor cited the fact that slavery did actually exist in the Territory, and gave the names of the men who held slaves. He recommended the passage of the bill for the following reasons:

1. Because no human being should be held in slavery in this Territory now and hereafter.
2. Because slavery does practically exist in Nebraska, and should be prohibited.
3. Because the people of the Territory, in their Territorial capacity, have the power to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude, and are responsible for its continuance.
4. Because the administration and a large party in this country maintain that neither the people of the Territories nor the Congress of the United States have the power to legislate upon the subject of slavery; and it is time this monstrous proposition was settled and forever put at rest by the judicial tribunals of the land.
5. Because the passage of the bill will forever rid us of the excitement created in a neighborhood by the slavery propagandist, upon the escape of a slave from bondage.
6. Because now is the most propitious time to rid ourselves of slavery if there is anything in popular sovereignty.
7. Because if we permit people to hold slaves, and slavery to exist in Nebraska, when we can get rid of it, we will be justly censured by the present and succeeding generations.

In his report Mr. Miller asserted that it was injudicious for the Legislature to lend itself to the agitation of a subject which, to the people of Nebraska at least, was conceded to be really of no practical importance. He denied the necessity of the bill, and claimed that "no sane person for a moment supposes that Nebraska is in the slightest possible danger of being either a slave Territory or a slave State." "Popular sentiment in Nebraska," said Mr. Miller, "is universally against the institution of slavery, and even if it were not, and the public voice was to pronounce to-day in favor of its establishment here, the controlling laws of nature, peculiar to the latitude, would utterly preclude the possibility of its obtaining a permanent place among us. Suppose it true—which it is not—that the Territory does furnish a profitable field for slave labor, who is there so infatuated as to believe for an instant that this Territory, peopled almost entirely by men whose associations from infancy, and whose education in the midst of free institutions have conducted them into manhood, not only with all their prejudice, but with all the convictions of their judgment against the institution—who so foolish as to say that legislation is required or ought to be granted on this subject?" Mr. Miller made light of the claims of the friends of the bill that its passage was a necessity, and concluded his report as follows: "In view of all the circumstances of the case, the admitted absence of any necessity either for the bill under consideration or the report which is made upon it, it may be justly presumed that both were designed for the single and sole purpose of agitating a subject which may be thought calculated to advance the political interests of restless and ambitious men, at the expense of the peace, harmony and good will that ought to unite in the bonds of common hopes and common aims of the people of the Territory, which certainly requires the combined efforts and energies of all to secure to it that position to which, by its inexhaustible resources, geographical situation and other advantages, it is so very justly entitled. Nor can your committee permit the occasion to pass without expressing the opinion that the effort to introduce to Nebraska the popular excitements which have agitated and dis-

tracted other communities, in our neighborhood, will be a miserable failure. The people understand the motives which move men to engage in these political games, and they will meet them in the proper way and by the proper means, regarding only those things that shall best redound to the political peace and permanent prosperity of the entire Territory." Mr. Doane concurred, in the main, with the views expressed in the report submitted by Mr. Miller.

The bill also made its appearance in the House on December 7, being presented by T. M. Marquette. On the following day an attempt made to lay the bill on the table was unsuccessful. Then a motion to reject the bill was defeated by a vote of 24 to 11. On December 16, the measure was taken up by the committee of the whole House and amended so as to prohibit the further extension of slavery in the Territory, without effecting the status of the slaves already held. After an unsuccessful attempt to strike out the enacting clause, the bill was engrossed and passed to a third reading. The bill came up for its final passage in the House on December 17. The opponents of the measure resorted to every form of parliamentary strategy to avoid a vote, but their efforts were unavailing. The bill passed by a vote of 21 to 17.

In the Council, on December 20, consideration of the bill was indefinitely postponed, and for a time the friends of the measure believed that their efforts to make Nebraska a free Territory were to be unsuccessful. On December 29, Mr. Little offered "a joint resolution for the prohibition of slavery in Nebraska." It was objected to on the ground that the whole matter had been disposed of by indefinite postponement. The chair decided the point of order not well taken. The resolution was then put in the form of a bill and passed. In its new form it was returned to the House, where it was again amended and passed. On the 3d of January, the Council concurred in the amendments, and the bill was finally sent to the governor. On January 9, Gov. Black returned the bill with his veto. In his message, which was an elaborate document, the governor discussed the subject in all its legal and constitutional aspects. He believed that the constitution, "while not carrying slavery into the Territories, did

guarantee the property right of masters in slaves, and permitted the owners to carry them wherever they desired." Discussing the power of the Legislature to pass the bill, Gov. Black said: "The Territorial Legislature was deemed but a temporary department, having no right or power to pass a law which was regarded as conflicting with the individual rights of citizens—rights protected by the constitution of the United States." Thus the second attempt to abolish and prohibit slavery in Nebraska proved a failure; but a sentiment in favor of making Nebraska Territory free soil had been created, and it soon became powerful enough to place the desired law upon the statute books, as will be seen further on in this volume.

Another notable feature of the sixth session was the first attempt to raise Nebraska to the dignity of Statehood. In his message Gov. Black had discussed the question of Statehood, but stated that Nebraska was hardly yet in a position to claim admission, for the reason that the population of the Territory was not large enough. In spite of the governor's views, however, the Legislature at this session passed a bill entitled "an act to frame a constitution and State government for the State of Nebraska." The proposition embodied in the bill was submitted to a vote of the people on March 5, 1860. It was rejected by a vote of 2,372 to 2,994.

The seventh session of the Legislature convened on Monday, December 3, 1860. Gov. Black's annual message indicated that at that time the Territorial debt amounted to \$50,000. Various matters of importance to the development of the Territory were discussed in the message. It was during this session that the slavery question received its final *quietus* in Nebraska. On December 7, John M. Thayer introduced a bill in the Council "to abolish slavery and involuntary servitude in the Territory." The same bill had been introduced in the House on December 6, by Representative Mathias. Both Houses passed the bill, but for a second time Gov. Black interposed a veto. His veto message was very similar to the one penned by him in the previous session. It was, as may be expected, severely censured by the friends of abolition. Councilman T. W. Tipton, afterward United States Senator from

Nebraska, commented on the veto message as follows: "In my humble opinion this veto message is a most remarkable production—remarkable on account of the pertinacity with which His Excellency follows up this question of human freedom with ponderous documents, earnest protests and unavailing entreaties. In its component parts, it is equally remarkable, whether you consider it a system of dove-tailed fallacies, special pleadings or sublimated foolishness. If His Excellency had a mint of gold with which to bribe the other, we could neither give dignity to this document nor force to its conclusions. The honest hearts of our constituents would consign us, for our efforts, to everlasting political infamy." The sentiment in favor of abolition had grown rapidly in the short time which had elapsed between the sixth and seventh sessions. Consequently the friends of the measure had no difficulty in securing its passage over the governor's veto. Thus closed the contest over slavery in Nebraska. Gov. Black was the last of the succession of Democratic governors that had presided over the destinies of the young Territory since its organization in 1854. His political and social education had placed him in the ranks of those who believed that the constitution guaranteed the right of a master to own slaves in any State or Territory of the Union. He was a man of sterling integrity, an able jurist and a fine executive officer. He died on the field of battle in defense of the Union, in the second year of the war. He was one of the ablest men connected with the Territorial government of Nebraska.

The year 1861 inaugurated a new era in the history of Nebraska. The Territory had passed through the critical period of its existence, and was now on the highway of prosperity. The National government had passed under the administration of the Republican party, and the change also resulted in a change in the politics of the Territorial government of Nebraska. Alvin Saunders, of Iowa, was appointed governor of the Territory by President Lincoln, while Algernon S. Paddock received the appointment of Territorial secretary. Gov. Saunders

held his position until Nebraska assumed the mantle of Statehood, and won many high eoniums for the able manner in which he wielded the executive authority.

Although appointed soon after President Lincoln took his seat, Gov. Saunders did not assume the office until May, 1861. In the meantime the War of the Rebellion had been inaugurated by the firing upon Fort Sumter. President Lincoln immediately issued his call for 75,000 volunteers. On May 18, 1861, Gov. Saunders issued a proclamation asking for the formation of companies in Nebraska, a call which was speedily responded to. The proclamation is of interest to readers of this sketch, and it will be found in its appropriate place, in the chapter devoted to Nebraska's part in the Rebellion.

The eighth session of the Territorial Legislature added its endorsement to the cause of the Union by the adoption of resolutions to the following effect:

"That this body deems it its first duty to renew its vows of allegiance to the federal government, and to reaffirm its devotion to the Constitution; that we regard secession and nullification as treason against the general government; that we indorse the declaration of Congress that the war is not waged in any spirit of oppression or purpose of interfering with the rights of established institutions, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution; that whenever an American citizen unsheaths his sword or shoulders his musket he shall leave the spoilsman, the partisan and the politician in a nameless grave behind him." To these resolutions sup-

plementary resolutions were adopted declaring: "That we approve of the war; that we hold rebels against our government to be outside the pale of its protection; that we recommend the amendment of the act of confiscation of certain property so as to embrace all kinds of property."

The adoption of the above resolutions left no doubt as to Nebraska's position in the great struggle over the preservation of the Union. Nor did Nebraska stop here. She raised troops, not only for the defense of the frontier, but for service against the armies of the Confederacy. The history of Nebraska's part in the war is reserved for a special chapter.

In his message to the ninth Legislature, which convened on January 7, 1864, Gov. Saunders referred at length to the prosperous condition of the Territory. He also paid a deserved tribute to the courage and high patriotism of the Nebraska volunteers, and recommended legislation to relieve the necessities of the widows and orphans of those who died in defense of the flag. A resolution indorsing and upholding President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the Amnesty Proclamation was adopted.

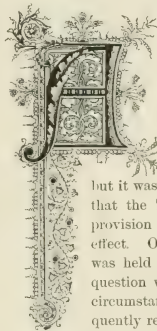
The tenth and eleventh sessions, the last two in the history of the Territory, furnished but little of interest to the reader of these pages. The last session authorized the people of the Territory to vote upon the question of Statehood. As the proposition was adopted, that period will be discussed in a chapter devoted to the history of Nebraska as a State.



CHAPTER VII.

ADMITTED INTO THE UNION—FORMATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT—HISTORICAL RECORD BY HON. C. H. GERE—
 CONDITION AS A STATE PROPER—FIRST OFFICIALS—LINCOLN, THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT—EARLY ELEC-
 TIONS—FIRST LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS—GOV. BUTLER'S REGIME—THE GOVERNOR IMPEACHED—A
 FAMOUS TRIAL—THE JAMES ADMINISTRATION—STIRRING EVENTS—BLIZZARD AND
 GRASSHOPPER SCOURGE—STATE OFFICERS SINCE ORGANIZATION.

Could any but a knowing, prudent cause
 Begin such motions, and assign such laws?—*Blackmore.*



APRIL 19, 1864, nearly ten years after the formation of the Territory, Congress passed a law authorizing the people of Nebraska to adopt a constitution and form a State government; but it was not until February 9, 1866, that the Territorial Legislature made provision for carrying the law into effect. On June 2, 1866, an election was held to decide the question. The question was made a political one by circumstances which will be subsequently related, and the vote was a very close one; but the opponents to Statehood were defeated, the vote standing 3,938 for, and 3,838 against. The best record of the contest over the formation of a State government is found in the archives of the State Historical Society at Lincoln. A portion of the record relating to this part of Nebraska's history is inserted here for the reason that it is of unquestioned reliability, being prepared by Hon. C. H. Gere, who was an active participant in the struggle:

"In 1864 Congress passed an act to enable the people of Nebraska to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State in-

to the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in which the usual amount of lands were set apart for school purposes, embracing the sixteenth and thirty-second sections of each township; also twenty sections to be appropriated for each of the public buildings for legislative and judicial purposes, fifty sections for the erection of a penitentiary, seventy-two sections for the erection of a State university, twelve salt springs, with six sections to each, adjoining them or contiguous as may be, for the use of the State, and 5 per centum of the proceeds of all sales of lands within the boundaries of the Territory previous to its admission as a State, for a common school fund. By other acts 90,000 acres of land were granted to the State upon admission for the endowment of an agricultural college, and 500,000 acres for internal improvements. No action was taken under this act until the meeting of the Legislature of 1865 and 1866. During its session a committee was appointed to draft a constitution for submission to the people. The committee drew up the document. The Legislature by resolution approved it, and passed an act calling an election on June 21, at which election not only the question of rejection or adoption of the instrument be voted upon, but candidates for the executive, judicial and legislative offices authorized by the instrument, should be elected.

The question of adopting the constitution was immediately made a political one. Under the administration of President Johnson, a considerable change was likely to be made in the boundary lines between the two great parties. The Republican party was more or less divided, and the Democrats were affiliating with the Johnson or liberal wing. The President was exercising the powers of patronage for the success of the coalition, and the liveliest hope pervaded the ranks of the Democracy and the Johnson Republicans that another election or two would put Congress and the government in their hands. Hence the Republicans in Nebraska were exceedingly anxious to forestall such a change and assist in holding the National Legislature for that party by the immediate admission of Nebraska, in which they seemed to have a good working majority, and sending two Senators and one Congressman of their faith to reinforce the party in the National councils. With equal foresight, the Democratic leaders saw that it was against their interests to permit this to be done; that by delaying the matter until their expected accession of strength would give them control of the nation, and eventually of Nebraska, where the majority against them was comparatively small, they would assist their friends in Washington, and at the same time keep the coveted Senatorship for themselves, to take possession of as soon as they acquired the expected predominance at the polls. For this reason, the canvass became exceedingly lively, and was, in fact, the most thorough and bitterly contested of any that had previously occurred. Each party, of course, nominated a full State and Legislative ticket. The Republican orators labored for the adoption of the constitution, and the Democratic stumpers worked as hard to defeat that instrument as they did to secure votes for their own candidates for governor, or judge, or a member of the Legislature. But, as is not seldom the case in these disputes of statesmen, the real motives of the patriots on each side were not publicly proclaimed, and the debates were ingeniously engineered so as to make it appear that purely economical and financial principles were at stake. The Republicans drew rose-colored pictures of the future of the embryo State. They dotted the

lone prairies of the Platte, the Salt, the Blue, the Republican, the Elkhorn, the Loup and the Niobrara Valleys with cities and towns, and drew a complex web of railroads on the school-house maps, and said: 'All these shall we have in the next ten or fifteen years, and a population of hundreds of thousands, if we show to the people of the East and Europe our capacity of self-government, and secure the privilege of chartering and encouraging railroads.' They pointed to the Rocky Mountains, and said: 'Here is the great mining region; at our back door is a great market, that we need railroads to Colorado, to New Mexico, to Montana and Idaho to develop, and when these are built we can sell a great portion of our surplus corn, wheat, pork and beef at a price that will rival the markets of Illinois and Ohio.' They pointed to Galveston and said: 'There, only 700 miles from our border, is a seaport, and if we attain our sovereignty we shall have a line to the Gulf of Mexico, and need no longer to ship our grain to Europe, to Chicago and New York at rates of transportation that eat up all the profits.' Some of the most fervent of these orators—among whom was, notably, a comparatively new man in politics, though an old settler, David Butler, of Pawnee, the Republican candidate for governor—were so carried away with these prophetic views of the future that they would cut the prairies in every direction with their paper railroads, and in their highest flights of oratory predicted a line to every county seat on the map.

The Democratic orators shook their heads and threw cold water upon these ardent prophesies. They took the chalk and figured upon the blackboards the enormous cost of railroad building, and called upon the honest farmers and mechanics to pause before they cast a ballot that would impose on the new and sparsely settled community a horde of office-holders, with unlimited power to rate taxes upon the people for their own aggrandizement. The Republicans pointed to the low salaries fixed by the proposed constitution for executive and judicial officers, and the limitations by which the Legislative power to bleed the people were hedged and confined. The Democrats contended that these were illusions and traps, that the irresistible inclination

of the radicals for the loaves and fishes of office, and their well-known ability as public plunderers, would make these constitutional limitations mere ropes of sand, and figured up the expenses of a State so they amounted to sums far above those set by the Republicans as the utmost limit of expenditure.

"The event has shown that both sides had really a strong case. Even the sanguine soul of that red-hot optimist, Butler, fell short in its conception of the immense strides of the first decade of Nebraska's Statehood in the building of railroads, the development of wealth and resources of the country, and the influx of immigration; and the sarcastic tongue of the eloquent pessimist, J. Sterling Morton, his opponent in the race for the gubernatorial chair, failed to state quite high enough the figures of the annual appropriations of the State Legislature for the carrying-on of the machinery of the new commonwealth. Because neither of the contestants dreamed of the mighty impulse of humanity that was about to beat across the western banks of the Missouri, the one could not mark high enough the future tide of wealth and improvements, and the other failed to estimate the necessities of large expenditures of money to meet the rapid growth and development of Nebraska.

"It was a stoutly fought campaign and an exceedingly close election. The majority for the adoption of the constitution was barely 200, and Butler was elected governor by a vote of 4,093 to 3,948 for Morton. So close was the election that the majority of Judge Crounse, one of the Republican candidates for the Supreme Court, was only six, while William A. Little, one of the Democratic candidates for chief justice, was elected.

"But the battle at the polls was merely a preliminary skirmish. The advocates of the State had captured the out-works, but the citadel was yet to be stormed. The Republicans had secured a majority of certificates of membership in each House, but there was a large number of contested seats. Cass County had given a large majority against the constitution, and, though the Republican candidates for the Senate and House from that county were declared elected, a bitter contest for their seats was opened

up by their opponents, and it was considered doubtful if some Republican delegate, if an issue was made squarely for or against an application to Congress for admission, would not vote with the acknowledged sentiment of a majority of their constituents, against Statehood.

"In consequence of this critical condition of affairs, when the Legislature met at Omaha in the old capitol, on the 4th day of July, 1866, excitement was exceedingly high. The party leaders were marshaled on both sides in full array, much bad blood was manifested, and it was even predicted that the session might be enlivened, after the old style, by a row in which physical force should be more potent than oratory for the settlement of disputed points of parliamentary practice. * * * * In law, possession is nine points; in a Legislature, experience has never yet demonstrated that there are any other points, and the contested seats were a foregone conclusion when it was ocularily demonstrated that the Republicans had the organization in both Houses, and could not keep it without counting in the Cass delegation, Rock Bluffs or no Rock Bluffs to the contrary notwithstanding. But the Democrats had an arrow in their quiver that seemed likely to do fatal execution. It was an adjournment *sine die* immediately upon the organization of the Legislature, which would leave the new State suspended between the heavens and the earth, like Mahomet's coffin, and overthrow the labor of months in the time it should take to call the roll of the two Houses. The Cass County delegation was believed to be ready to unite with them in the expedient, and that would give them one majority in the Senate and two in the House. The Cass County delegation had a secret meeting late at night on the evening of the 5th, the organization of the two Houses having been completed, and, it was understood, agreed to be bound by a vote thus taken, which resulted in a motion to adjourn *sine die*.

"In the Senate the next morning a motion was made immediately after roll-call, that the Senate do adjourn *sine die*; and it was carried by a majority of one. The news spread like wild-fire, and in the midst of the reading of the journal in the House, Padlock arose, and, amid much turmoil, moved to

dispense with its further reading. This was declared out of order by the Speaker, and the journal was finished. Mr. Paddock immediately moved that the House do now adjourn *sine die*, and declared that no further business could be done in any event, since the Senate had formally ended its existence. The Speaker properly ruled the motion out of order, because an adjournment *sine die*, according to Legislative law, could only be had by a joint resolution. His decision was immediately appealed from, and was reversed by a vote of 21 to 15. The motion was then put, and in the midst of the most intense excitement, and activity of party leaders running to and fro, the ayes and nays were slowly called. The votes, when the list had been completed, were 19 for adjournment to 18 against. The Speaker took the tally of the clerk and paused, as if to collect his thoughts. Maxwell, of the Cass delegation, who was not in sympathy with the adjournment, had voted 'no.' The Speaker paused just long enough for Hathaway, of the same delegation, whose sympathies were in the same direction, to conclude that, as the delegation was not a unit, as he had supposed, he would vote to suit himself, and he changed his aye to no. The vote was announced, and the anti-State arrow missed the bull's-eye by a hair's breadth.

"As soon as this break in the programme was made, the Senators opposed to adjournment collected again in the hall, and, on motion of Cadman, took a recess till 3 o'clock P. M. At that hour a quorum presented itself and quietly and unostentatiously proceeded to business as if nothing had happened, and the secretary as unobtrusively scored out with his ready pen all record of the matutinal hari-kari.

"The next day Gov. Butler read his message to the joint convention and the machinery of the *quasi* State was fairly under motion. * * * * In the meantime the Senatorial candidates had been waging their individual warfare, and there were more of them ostensibly in the field than have been since noticed on a similar occasion. The military won the fight. Maj. General Thayer and Chaplain Tipton, who both won their spurs in the First Nebraska, came out ahead, and the joint convention that cast the ballot show that Tipton was elected 'the Senator from the South Platte,' and Thayer 'the Senator

from the North Platte'—a proceeding somewhat extraordinary, the State of Nebraska being nominated nowhere in the bond.

"The seat of war was now transferred to Washington. Senators Thayer and Tipton, armed with the proper credentials as the Representatives of the State organization, departed for the capitol, and Hon. T. M. Marquette, who had been elected by the people as their first Congressman, knocked at the door of the House. On July 18, one week after the adjournment of the Legislature, on the eve of the close of the long session, a bill was passed admitting Nebraska to the Union. President Johnson put it in his pocket, and Congress adjourned, leaving the embryo State out in the cold. Upon the reassembling of Congress in December, representatives were on hand pressing their claims and urging the National Legislature to perform its part of the implied contract in the enabling act of 1864. But the Republicans had, in the progress of their political struggles, reassured themselves of their solidity with the people, and were no longer for accessions to their strength on the floor of the Senate. There was also a growth of the stalwart feeling in favor of a franchise unlimited by a color line. The fifteenth amendment had not yet been proposed to the Federal constitution, but strong efforts were being made to accomplish its object through the action of the States in severalty. The conservative gentlemen who had framed the constitution of Nebraska had inserted the word 'white.' This the Republican Congress now objected to. The Representatives of the old States were now more solicitous of preserving their sectional and individual weight in Congress against the swift encroachments of the growing Northwest than in reaching out after party accessions. It was exceedingly plain that no majority less than two-thirds in each House would avail, as the President was bitterly hostile to the proposition. A bill was introduced in the Senate, however, and passed that body, admitting the State in accordance with the provisions of the act of 1864, upon the following conditions:

"SECTION 3. And be it further enacted, That this act shall not take effect except under the fundamental conditions, that within the State of Nebraska there shall be

no denial of the elective franchise, or of any other right to any other person, by reason of race and color, excepting Indians not taxed, and upon the further fundamental principle, that the Legislature of said State, by a solemn public act, shall declare the assent of said State to these fundamental conditions, and shall transmit to the President of the United States an authentic copy of said act, upon receipt whereof the President, by proclamation, shall forthwith announce the fact, whereupon said fundamental conditions shall be held as part of the organic law of the State, and thereupon and without any further proceeding on the part of Congress, the admission of said State into the Union shall be considered as complete.

..In the House for a time the fate of the bill seemed uncertain. Mr. Marquette enlisted the assistance of his old law instructor, Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, one of the most prominent gentlemen and eloquent speakers on the floor of the Representative chamber, and he took the lead in championing the bill, and made a speech in its favor, of great force and brilliancy, which was probably decisive. The bill passed the House on February 8, 1867, was vetoed by the President next day, and immediately passed over his head by the constitutional majority in both Houses.

"A new State Legislature had been chosen by the people of the Territory, at the Territorial election in October previous, consisting for the most part of the same gentlemen elected to the Territorial Council and House. On the 14th of February, Gov. Saunders issued his proclamation, calling the members of the Legislature to meet at the capital on the 20th inst., to take action upon the conditions proposed by Congress. The Legislature assembled and passed the bill, accepting the fundamental conditions on February 21. * * * * On March 1, the President issued his proclamation announcing the admission of Nebraska into the Union, and on the 2d inst. Hon. T. M. Marquette presented his credentials in the House of Representatives and consummated the bond. Mr. Marquette's promptness was not imitated by the two Senators. The XXXVIIIth Congress was about to expire two days later, and by waiting that length of time, the commencement of their terms of office would be dated a couple of years later, it being the custom to fix March 4th, upon which Congress commenced its official life,

as the initial point of Senatorial terms. By waiting two days, the first Congressman's actual term of office would have been multiplied by 365, but he said he was tired of Washington, and, as John Tulle had been elected his successor, though at a time unauthorized by the enabling act, he preferred to cast his lot with the expiring Congress and return to private life. He sat two days and nights, cast the decisive vote against the appropriation of \$50,000 to fix up the White House according to the taste of the President, recorded his 'aye' on the famous reconstruction act, and was honorably mustered out of service.

"On April 4, Gov. Butler issued his call for an extra session, and on May 18, the Legislature came together and set in motion the machinery of the State."

From the stormy period of Territorial history, it is interesting to turn to the pleasanter and more inviting periods of State development. In the part of this sketch devoted to State history, the subject matter will be grouped under the several gubernatorial administrations.

The first governor of Nebraska was David Butler, of Pawnee County. Associated with him in the management of the affairs of the young State were the following officers: Thomas P. Kennard, secretary of State; John Gillespie, auditor; Augustus Kountze, treasurer; Champion S. Chase, attorney-general. Gov. Butler was a native of Indiana, and moved into the Territory of Nebraska in 1858. In 1861 he served in the Territorial Legislature, in 1862 was elected to the Council for two years. He took an active part in Territorial politics and headed the Republican ticket in the ever to be remembered struggle over the question of Statehood. Gov. Butler's first official act was the issuing of a proclamation, dated April 4, calling the Legislature together in special session, on May 18, for the purpose of enacting needed legislation and amending existing laws to harmonize with the new form of government. Shortly after this session of the Legislature, the capital was formally moved from Omaha to Lincoln, in accordance with an act of the Legislature passed the year previous. Gov. Butler, Auditor Gillespie and Secretary of State Kennard had been empowered to

select a site for a capital of the new State, and, after visiting the several locations which offered themselves, they had selected Lincoln. The contract for the erection of the State house was let on January 11, 1868, to Joseph Ward, of Chicago, for the sum of \$49,000. The walls of the building were constructed of magnesian limestone from the Beatrice quarries in Gage County. The building was sufficiently completed by December for occupancy, and on the 3d of that month Gov. Butler issued his proclamation announcing the removal of the seat of government to Lincoln, and ordering the transfer of the archives of the State to the new capital.

The first State and National election in which the people of Nebraska were permitted to participate occurred on November 3, 1868. An extra session of the Legislature convened at Omaha on October 27, to make the necessary provisions for the election of presidential electors, the existing laws being defective in this respect. The Republican State ticket was as follows: Presidential electors, T. M. Marquette, Lewis Allgewahr and J. F. Warner; Congressman, John Taffe; governor, David Butler; secretary of State, T. P. Kennard; auditor, John Gillespie; treasurer, James Sweet. S. A. Strickland, Alvin Saunders, L. Gerard, T. B. Stevenson, R. W. Furnas and S. Maxwell were selected as delegates to the National Republican convention which assembled at Chicago on May 21, at which Gen. U. S. Grant was nominated for President, and Hon. Schuyler Colfax for Vice President.

The first session to meet at the new capital convened on January 7, 1869. The session was uneventful. The most notable event in the year 1869 was the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad through the State, a full account of which will be found in a chapter especially devoted to that subject. The sixth session of the Legislature, which assembled on February 17, 1870, ratified the fifteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States, and provided for the erection of a penitentiary. The sixth session adjourned on March 4, but Gov. Butler reassembled the members in extra session on the same day. In his message calling the extra session, the governor called attention to the necessity of passing a herd law and the ratifica-

tion of a certain contract made by him for the conveyance of certain lands to Isaac Cahn and John M. Evans, to aid in the development of the saline lands of the State. In the fall of 1870 occurred the biennial election. Both political parties were in the field with full tickets, and the Republicans were successful. The following is a list of officers elected: Governor, David Butler; secretary of State, W. H. James; treasurer, Henry Koenig; superintendent of public instruction, J. M. McKenzie; attorney-general, George H. Roberts. The years of Gov. Butler's administration were not prolific of great events. The population of the State grew rapidly and, in 1870, had reached over 120,000. The Union Pacific had been built through the State, and several other railway enterprises inaugurated. With the advent of the railroads, new sections of the State were opened up for settlement, new towns sprang into existence, and the State grew in wealth and political power.

In spite of the rapid strides being made by the young State of Nebraska, everything pertaining to her State government was not as serene as a summer day. Although honored with a re-election to the highest post of honor in the State, Gov. Butler did not entirely escape criticism for some of his official actions. The charge that he had appropriated State funds for his own personal use and benefit was frequently made, and the charge became so emphatic that the Legislature was finally compelled to take official cognizance of it. On March 1, 1871, the eighth session of the Legislature being then in session, a committee from the House of Representatives appeared before the Senate and announced that articles had been prepared impeaching David Butler, governor of Nebraska, of misdemeanor in office. Secretary of State James was immediately notified to assume the executive functions, and preparations for the impeachment trial made. The Senate convened as a High Court of Impeachment on March 6, and upon the following day Gov. Butler appeared in answer to summons. With him appeared his counsel, Clinton Briggs, T. M. Marquette and John I. Redick. Hon. J. C. Myers, J. E. Doom and De Forest Porter acted as managers of impeachment, with Experience Ester-

brook as counsel. The articles of impeachment, abridged and stripped of their legal phraseology, were as follows:

FIRST. That David Butler, governor of the State of Nebraska, being authorized and directed by joint memorial and resolution of the Legislature of the State of Nebraska, to secure the payment over to the treasurer of the State the 5 per cent of the proceeds of public lands lying within the State of Nebraska, did, in the spring of 1869, procure to be audited and allowed to the State of Nebraska aforesaid, the sum of \$16,881.26, for which sum a warrant was issued by the proper department at Washington, payable to the order of David Butler, as governor of said State; and that while said money was subject to his order and control, he, the said David Butler, governor as aforesaid, was guilty of unlawfully and corruptly neglecting to discharge his duty in regard to said money, and of appropriating the same to his own use and benefit, whereby he became and was guilty of misdemeanor in his said office.

SECOND. That the said David Butler, being by virtue of his office one of the commissioners authorized by an act of the Legislature to expend moneys belonging to the State of Nebraska, in and about the erection of a State University, Agricultural College, and State Lunatic Asylum; and one M. J. McBird, having a claim against the State for services performed by him as architect, in and about furnishing plans and specifications for said buildings, he did, in the month of August, 1869, present his said claim to David Butler for allowance and approval, who proposed in substance and to the effect following: That he, David Butler, would procure to be issued a warrant upon the treasurer of the State for the sum of \$3,750, provided that said McBird should retain the sum of \$2,000 only out of the proceeds of said warrant, and should pay to him, the said David Butler, the sum of \$1,750 of such proceeds; and thereupon the said McBird did agree to said proposition; that the warrant was issued to the said McBird in the sum of \$3,750, and that the said McBird paid to David Butler part of said money, to-wit: \$1,750, whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

That the said David Butler did allow a claim

of M. J. McBird in the sum of \$1,828.26 for additional services, and did procure and cause to be issued two warrants, each for the sum of \$914.13; and that in accordance with a scandalous and corrupt agreement, the said McBird indorsed and delivered one of the warrants to David Butler, who received and kept the same; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

That David Butler, governor of Nebraska, endeavored to induce D. J. Silver & Son, contractors for the erection of the State University, to pay him the sum of \$10,000, and that he refused to settle the accounts of the said D. J. Silver & Son, until they acquiesced in such demand; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

That on the 15th day of July, 1869, the said David Butler, governor of Nebraska, did willfully and corruptly propose to lease to one Thomas F. Hall, certain saline lands belonging to the State, providing the said Thomas F. Hall would pay him the sum of \$5,000, for his own use and benefit; and upon the refusal of said Thomas F. Hall to pay the sum demanded, the said David Butler did decline to lease said lands, contrary to his duty and his oath of office; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

That on the 1st day of January, 1871, the said David Butler did willfully and corruptly agree to procure the appointment of one Nelson C. Brock, as treasurer of the board of regents of the University of Nebraska, in consideration of the sum of \$750; whereby said David Butler was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

That on the first day of July, 1869, the said David Butler received a conveyance of certain lands to himself as an inducement and bribe to influence the location of the State Insane Asylum, by which he was improperly and corruptly influenced to locate said asylum in the immediate vicinity of the land so conveyed; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

THIRD. That the said David Butler, on the

18th day of February, 1869, did unlawfully induce John Gillespie, auditor of the State of Nebraska, to issue two warrants in the sum of \$1,000 each under the pretense that they were issued for the purpose of paying one Champion S. Chase, for services rendered the State as an attorney, and that on the 22d day of February, 1869, the said David Butler did willfully and corruptly appropriate to his own use one of said warrants, whereby he did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

FOURTH. That the said David Butler did unlawfully and corruptly enter into contract with one Joseph Ward for the completion of the State Lunatic Asylum at a contract price, *i. e.* \$88,000, greatly in excess of the sum appropriated for said building; that by the terms of said contract the foundation of said asylum was to be completed for \$18,500, and that in the spring of 1870 said foundation was not finished, and there was due to said Ward less than that sum on contract, yet the governor approved the estimates of said Ward and caused the same to be allowed and paid to the amount of \$45,000; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

FIFTH. That David Butler, being a member of the board of regents and *ex-officio* president of said board, did willfully and recklessly assent and become a party to a contract with D. J. Silver & Son for the erection of the State University and Agricultural College at a price greatly in excess of the appropriations therefor, whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

SIXTH. That in response to a resolution passed by the present session of the Legislature, the said David Butler transmitted to the Legislature a communication in which he stated that he had collected from the National Treasury, the sum of \$16,881.26, and deposited that amount in the State treasury, that in the communication the said David Butler did falsely declare that he deposited the amount of money in the State Treasury, whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

SEVENTH. That on the 30th day of July, 1870,

the said David Butler instructed James Sweet, State treasurer, to let Anson C. Tichenor have \$10,000 of the school money of the State; that said sum was loaned Tichenor without the assent of either State auditor or treasurer; and that the security was known to be wholly inadequate and insufficient; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

EIGHTH. That the said David Butler did in the year of 1869 receive the sum of \$648.43, a balance of money in the hands of the Treasurer of the Board of Immigration, which he has paid into the treasury of the State, but wrongfully appropriated it to his own use, whereby he did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

NINTH. That during the year 1870, the said David Butler did improperly execute and cause to be issued to the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Companies a patent or patents to seventy-five sections of land belonging to the State, and granted by the Legislature to the Northern Nebraska Air Line Railroad Company; whereby the said David Butler did commit and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

TENTH. That in the month of December, 1869, the said David Butler sold to one James Gerrens, a piece of land belonging to the State, for the sum of \$1,920, of which sum he appropriated to his own use the sum of \$1,120, whereby he committed and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office.

ELEVENTH. That in the month of April, 1869, the said David Butler sold to one Andrew J. Cropsey, certain lots in Lincoln, Neb., the title to which was in the State of Nebraska, for the sum of \$2,400, a portion of which he appropriated for his own use and benefit, whereby he committed and was guilty of a misdemeanor in office."

To the above articles and specifications Gov. Butler made an elaborate answer. He denied *in toto* the allegations made in each and every article and specification, with the exception of the first. To that article he made, in effect, the following answer:

That it is true the government of the United States had donated to the State of Nebraska the five per cent on proceeds of the public lands, and the amount thereof

was due the State of Nebraska, and that this respondent was authorized to procure the same to be paid over to the treasurer of said State; and that in the spring of 1869, this respondent procured to be audited and allowed for the State of Nebraska the sum of \$16,881.26, for which amount a warrant was duly issued by the proper department at Washington, payable to the order of the respondent, as governor of said State; and that said warrant was brought to Nebraska and deposited in the First National Bank, at Omaha, to the credit of the respondent, as governor aforesaid; that it is untrue that he unlawfully and corruptly neglected to discharge his duties in regard to said money, and denies that he appropriated the same, or any part thereof, to his own use; but this respondent alleges that some time after said money was deposited as above set forth, he did, at the suggestion and with the consent of the treasurer of the State, borrow said sum of money of the State, and that at the time the respondent agreed to and did give to the State the bonds hereinafter mentioned, and agreed to secure the same by mortgages on real estate situated in the State, and the said treasurer at the same time promised to draw the mortgages, and present them to this respondent without delay, but the treasurer, having neglected to prepare the same, after the lapse of considerable time, the respondent caused said mortgages to be prepared, and did execute to said State, in due form of law, nineteen mortgages, on as many distinct tracts of land, amounting in the aggregate to about three thousand acres of land, which mortgages, bearing date May 25, 1869, were duly executed and acknowledged by this respondent and his wife, and were, about the 1st of January, 1871, delivered to said State, duly recorded in the offices of the county clerks in the counties respectively where said lands are situated.

That at the time said mortgages were executed and recorded this respondent was seized of the same in fee simple; that they were free from incumbrances and were then and still are worth at least \$30,000 in cash, and that each particular tract of land included in said mortgages is worth, in cash, at least double the amount secured thereby; that at the date of said mortgage the respondent executed to said State nineteen bonds for the aggregate sum of \$16,881.26, payable to said State five years from date, with interest from date at the rate of ten per cent per annum, the interest payable annually; and that the respondent has paid the interest due on said bonds and mortgages for one year.

Space forbids a detailed account of the trial. Suffice it to say that Gov. Butler was acquitted of every charge except the first, upon which he was found guilty. He was removed from his office, the duties of the executive devolving upon William H.

James, secretary of State. Gov. Butler remained under this cloud until the Legislature of 1876-77, when all record of the famous impeachment trial was expunged from the records.

The elevation of Secretary of State James to the executive chair was followed by stirring events. An attempt was made to impeach Auditor Gillespie, but after allowing the matter to rest for some time the House withdrew its charges, and the matter was dropped for all time. On September 19, 1871, a new constitution was submitted to the people of the State, but it was rejected by a vote of 8,627 to 7,986. The necessity for the adoption of a new and revised constitution was generally admitted; but a number of distasteful amendments were attached which brought the instrument in disfavor.

The leading issues of the eighth session of the Legislature, which convened on January 9, 1872, were the reconsideration of the question of a new constitution, and the adoption of a measure looking to the development of the saline resources of the State. The relations between the members of this body and Acting Governor James were not of the most cordial character. A joint resolution providing for the submission of the constitution, stripped of its objectionable features, was defeated in the House on January 19. A dead-lock ensued, whereupon the House adopted a resolution to adjourn on January 24. In the meantime the Senate had adopted a resolution to adjourn until December 31. Acting Governor James then assumed a questionable prerogative of issuing a proclamation, declaring that inasmuch as "no reasonable hope is entertained that the longer continuance in session of the Legislature will result in the adoption of any measures which have for their object the public good," the Legislature adjourned without day. But the Legislature refused to recognize the right of the acting governor to regulate its movements. The Senate assembled on the 21st, took up the concurrent resolution of the House to adjourn on the 24th, and agreed to it. An unsuccessful attempt was made to have the office of governor declared vacant, and the Legislature adjourned on the 24th.

But the end was not yet. Acting Governor James was called to Washington, D. C., on business.

His enemies seized the opportunity to make trouble for him. Isaac S. Hascall, president of the Senate, issued a proclamation, declaring that the absence of the acting governor from the State created a vacancy in the office, and calling the Legislature to convene in a special session on February 15, for the purpose of enacting laws, as he alleged, for the promotion of the State. A friend immediately telegraphed the news to Acting Governor James, who at once returned to the State. He issued a counter proclamation annulling the call for a special session of the Legislature issued by Mr. Hascall. A few of the members came together and attempted to organize, but a test case was decided against them by the supreme court, and the matter passed into history.

At the general election in the fall of 1872 the following State officers were elected: Governor, Robert W. Furnas; secretary of State, J. J. Gasper; auditor, J. B. Weston; treasurer, H. A. Koenig; attorney-general, J. R. Webster; chief justice, George B. Lake. The name of Robert W. Furnas has been prominently identified with the State of Nebraska from its earliest days. He removed to Nebraska from Ohio in 1856, and located at Brownville, where he commenced the publication of the Nebraska Advertiser, one of the oldest newspapers in the State. At an early period in the Civil War he received a colonel's commission and organized the Indian brigade of three regiments, which he commanded during its service in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian Territory. He afterward recruited the Second Nebraska Cavalry, and commanded them in a notable expedition against the Sioux. For four years he had the appointment as agent of the Omaha and Winnebago Indians, a position he held until a short time before his election as governor of Nebraska. He has always taken an active interest in everything pertaining to the agricultural and horticultural interests of the State.

The ninth session of the Legislature convened on January 9, 1873. This session was made memorable by the first contest over the submission of a prohibitory amendment to the constitution. The friends of prohibition introduced a measure to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, but after some consideration it was indefinitely postponed. The

tenth session of the Legislature was a special one, convening on March 27, 1873, and remaining in session only two days. It was called for the purpose of taking needed action on matters relating to the boundaries of certain counties. On April 23, 1873, occurred one of the most terrible storms ever experienced in the history of the State. The storm began with a heavy rain, which before nightfall changed to snow, and for forty-eight hours the fall of snow, driven by a fierce, northwest wind, was so heavy that most of the time a person could not see ten feet from him. Many persons were lost and narrowly escaped death in trying to pass from their houses to the barns. Much stock perished, even in barns, the snow penetrating and filling them entirely, while herds were driven miles before the storm. The snow packed so firmly and drifted to such an extent that ravines and even streams were effectually bridged by it, and loaded teams were driven over them on the drifted snow.

The year of 1873 was also a memorable one in the history of the State, as it was in that year that the grasshoppers first devastated the State. In July and August of that year myriads of these insects settled down over the State, destroying the crops and leaving the farmers utterly destitute. Their coming was forestalled at times by a dark, cloud-like haze, caused by the swarms as they passed through the air, obscuring the sunlight of the brightest day. Dropping from their flight to the earth, they became a thick, seething mass of devouring insects. All green vegetation, except grasses, was rapidly consumed. The damage done by the grasshoppers had an exceedingly depressing effect upon all the business interests of the State. The troublesome insects visited the State a second time in 1874, doing almost as much damage. Since that year, however, they have done no injury and it is not likely that they will ever again make their appearance.

At the general election in 1874 the following State officers were elected: Governor, Silas Garber; secretary of State, Bruno Tzschuck; treasurer, J. C. McBride; attorney-general, George H. Rogers; superintendent of public instruction, J. M. McKenzie.

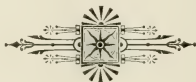
Gov. Garber came to Nebraska from Cali-

foria in 1870, and settled in Webster County. Before removing to California he had served in the war with distinction, holding a captain's commission in an Iowa regiment. He laid out the city of Red Cloud in 1872, and was the first probate judge of Webster County. Before his election as governor, he served the people of Webster, Nuckolls and Jefferson Counties in the Legislature.

The eleventh session of the Legislature, which convened in January, 1875, performed a notable service for the State, by providing for a new constitution better suited for the needs of the rapidly-growing young commonwealth. A constitutional convention was held in Lincoln in June, 1875, at which the present constitution was devised. It was submitted to a popular vote on October 10, and was adopted by an overwhelming majority, the vote for adoption being 30,202, and against adoption 5,474.

The eleventh session of the Legislature also witnessed the memorable contest over the election of a United States Senator, to succeed Senator Tipton. Algernon S. Paddock was elected. In 1876 Gov. Silas Garber was honored by a re-election. His associates during the second term of his administration were: Lieutenant-governor, O. A. Abbott;

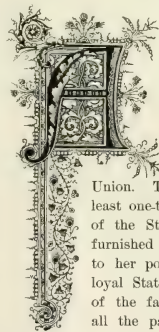
secretary of State, Bruno Tzschuck; auditor, J. B. Weston; treasurer, J. C. McBride; superintendent of public instruction, S. R. Thompson; attorney-general, George H. Roberts; land commissioner, F. M. Davis. The twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Legislature were uneventful. At the general election in 1878 the following State officers were chosen: Governor, Albinus Nance; lieutenant-governor, E. C. Carns; secretary of State, S. J. Alexander; auditor, F. W. Leidtke; treasurer, G. M. Bartlett; superintendent of public instruction, S. M. Thompson; attorney-general, C. J. Dillworth; commissioner of lands and buildings, F. M. Davis. Gov. Nance came to Nebraska from Illinois in 1871, and located in Polk County. He enlisted in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry when but sixteen years of age, and served until the close of the war. After the war he became a student at Knox College, in Galesburg, Ill., and afterwards studied law. After coming to Nebraska he enjoyed a successful professional and political career. He was twice a member of the Legislature, speaker of the House, delegate to the National Republican convention in 1876, and was re-elected governor of Nebraska in 1880.



CHAPTER VIII.

NEBRASKA'S PART IN THE REBELLION—NUMBER OF SOLDIERS FURNISHED—SENTIMENT OF THE PEOPLE—COMPANIES ORGANIZED—SKETCHES OF INFANTRY REGIMENTS—ENGAGEMENTS PARTICIPATED IN—HOME PROTECTION CONSIDERED—INDIAN ENCOUNTERS—SKETCHES OF NEBRASKA'S SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN—SENATORIAL SUCCESSION—PHINEAS W. HITCHCOCK—THOMAS W. TIPTON—JOHN M. THAYER—ALGERNON S. PADDOCK—ALVIN SAUNDERS—CHARLES F. MANDERSON—CHARLES H. VAN WYCK, AND OTHERS.

The cannon's hushed! nor drum nor clarion sound;
 Helmet and hauberk gleam upon the ground;
 Horsemen and horse lie weltering in their gore;
 Patriots are dead and heroes dare no more.—*Montgomery.*



Notwithstanding the breaking out of the Rebellion Nebraska contained a population of less than 30,000; but notwithstanding this fact the State sent 3,307 men to fight for the preservation of the Union. These soldiers comprised at least one-third of the able-bodied men of the State, consequently Nebraska furnished more troops in proportion to her population than many of the loyal States of the North. The news of the fall of Fort Sumter aroused all the patriotism of the people of the young States, and the work of raising troops to quell the Rebellion commenced on the very day the news was received. Under the proclamation of President Lincoln calling for three years' volunteers, the Secretary of War assigned one regiment to Nebraska. Gov. Alvin Saunders immediately called for volunteers to fill the Nebraska contingent, and the patriotic citizens readily responded. The first company was formed June 3, 1861, and the regiment was filled by the organiza-

tion of the tenth company July 22, less than fifty days being required. The companies were as follows: Omaha furnished two companies, the Omaha Guards, Thomas Watson, captain, John Horbach, lieutenant, and the Union Rifle Company, William Baumer, captain, and P. Walter and H. Koenig, lieutenants. Cass County furnished a company of dragoons, with R. G. Dooms as captain, and Isaac Chivington and G. D. Conley as lieutenants. Platts-mouth furnished a company under the command of Capt. R. R. Livingston, with A. F. McKinney and N. F. Sharp, lieutenants. Burt County furnished a company commanded by Capt. Stephen Decatur. Florence, Nebraska City and Brownville each raised companies, and two more were furnished by Omaha and Douglas County. The regiment being full, Gov. Saunders appointed the following officers: John Thayer, colonel; Henry P. Downs, lieutenant-colonel; William H. McCord, major; Enos Lowe, surgeon.

On July 30, the First Nebraska Infantry embarked on a Missouri River steamer for St. Joseph, Mo., where the men were to receive their equipments. After being fully equipped the regiment was taken to St. Louis and employed in service within the boundaries of the State of Missouri until February,

1862. They encountered many bodies of rebels belonging to Price's command and several hot skirmishes ensued. On February 2, 1862, the regiment started for Tennessee where it was to participate in the first campaign in which the Union armies won a decided advantage. The regiment arrived at Fort Henry, Tenn., on February 11, but was immediately sent to Fort Donelson, where it participated in the struggle which resulted in the capture of that rebel stronghold. The First Nebraska then remained comparatively inactive until April 6, when it marched for Pittsburg Landing, reaching there too late, however, to participate in the first day's fighting. On the morning of the 7th they were placed in Gen. Lew Wallace's division, Col. John M. Thayer being in command of the brigade. The fighting commenced at daybreak, the First Nebraska troops being placed so as to receive the brunt of the enemy's charges. The fighting, as is well known, was furious, but the enemy were repulsed, the First Nebraska having the honor of leading the final charge that drove the rebels from the field. In his official report Gen. Thayer spoke of the First Nebraska troops as follows: "The action now became general. I again gave the order to 'forward,' and the line advanced as regularly, and with a front as unbroken, as upon a parade ground, the First Nebraska, Lieut.-Col. McCord, moving up directly in front of the enemy's battery." And again: "Nobly did the First Nebraska sustain its reputation, well earned on the field of Donelson. Its progress was onward during the whole day, in face of a galling fire of the enemy, moving on without flinching, at one time being an hour and a half in front of their battery, receiving and returning its fire; its conduct was most excellent." At Pittsburg Landing the First Nebraska sustained a loss of between twenty and thirty men. At Corinth and other battles of the summer of 1862, the regiment did its full duty. From October, 1862, till the following August, the regiment was stationed at various points in Missouri and Arkansas, doing camp and picket duty. They had several skirmishes with the enemy, notably at Cape Girardeau and Chalk Bluffs, on both occasions the enemy being repulsed with great loss. August 28, 1863, they were removed to St. Louis.

In November their regiment having been mounted were thereafter known as the First Nebraska Cavalry. From this time until June 18, 1864, the First Nebraska was stationed at different points in Arkansas, engaged in scouting and doing picket duty. They skirmished with the enemy at the towns of Jacksonport and Sycamore, killing a few of the enemy and capturing a great many prisoners.

The regiment returned to Omaha in June, 1864, and were furloughed until the following August, when they were detailed for duty against the Indians, and were ordered to Fort Kearney. Here the regiment remained until they were mustered out of service July 1, 1866. During this time they were engaged in scouting and escort duty, protecting telegraph lines and guarding the lives and property of the settlers from the depredations of the Indians. It was a constant warfare between the Indians and the soldiers. Raid succeeded raid, and the punishment which the Indians received did not seem to deter them, but they were ready for new depredations and outrages whenever the opportunity presented itself. The regiment served faithfully in defense of the Union. Their bravery is attested on the fields of Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Sycamore, Chalk Bluffs, Red Banks, Cape Girardeau, Jacksonport and others. And after they were no longer needed in crushing the Rebellion, they rushed to the protection of frontiers from the ravages of hostile Indians.

In the summer of 1862, while the First regiment was in the South fighting the Confederates, it became necessary to devise some means by which home interests could be protected. The Indians were plundering, killing and capturing the settlers, and an organized effort to repel their attacks must be made. The result was the organization of the Second Nebraska Cavalry, as a nine months regiment. R. W. Furnas, Brownville, was their colonel. In April, 1863, the Second Nebraska were ordered to report for duty at Sioux City, preparatory to joining the expedition up the Missouri under Gen. Sully. Under Sully the Nebraska troops took part in various skirmishes with the Sioux Indians. On September 3, 200 miles above Fort Pierre, the great battle of Whitestone Hills was fought, with

the Brule, Yankton and Blackfeet Sioux, numbering nearly 2,000 strong. In this fight the Indians were completely defeated, abandoning all their camp property and animals, losing 150 men, 300 wounded and 200 prisoners. The Nebraska troops lost 7 men killed, 14 wounded and 10 missing. In the latter part of September, 1863, the regiment returned to Omaha and were mustered out of service, having served most acceptably against the Indians.

In August, 1861, a call was issued for two companies of cavalry to join the First regiment. Under this call two companies were formed under Capts. Patrick and Croft. These companies, however, did not join the First regiment as first intended, but with two other companies, one from Nebraska City, the other from St. Louis, were merged into the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, under which name they went through the war. They were also known as the "Curtis Horse." These four companies, designated the Nebraska Battalion, were lettered respectively A, B, C and D, and composed the First battalion. These troops served their time in the army of the Southwest, where they participated in some of the hardest fought battles of the war.

As a matter of no slight interest, the following brief personal sketches are given prominent mention as indicating the character of those who have been called upon to occupy honored official positions.

Phineas W. Hitchcock, deceased, was born November 30, 1831. His father was a farmer near New Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y., where the subject of our sketch was born. He spent two years at school in Barrington, Mass., and when twenty years of age he entered Williams College. Four years later Mr. Hitchcock graduated from that institution, and after several years of combined law study and journalistic work in the State of New York, he came to the Territory of Nebraska in the spring of 1857. He at once opened a law office at Omaha, combining with the practice of his profession an agency for several insurance companies, and a general real estate business. He was elected to the Republican convention in Chicago, which, in 1860, nominated Abraham Lincoln, and from the first voted for Lincoln. In the winter of 1860-61 he went to Washington to secure from Mr. Lincoln the

appointment of secretary of the Territory of Nebraska. Meeting with J. Sterling Morton, the occupant of that position, he visited with him at the latter's old home at Detroit, Mich., where he became acquainted with Zach. Chandler and other prominent Republicans, who supported him in his application. He received the appointment of marshal instead of secretary of Nebraska, which office he held until 1864. He was then nominated for Territorial delegate to the XXXIXth Congress. On the admission of Nebraska as a State he was elected surveyor-general. He was elected to the United States Senate for the term commencing March 4, 1871. He was remarkably successful in the passage of a large number of bills of great importance to the undeveloped West. He originated a number of laws relative to timber culture, of Indian legislation, and of the acts admitting Colorado as a State. He belonged to the stalwart wing of the Republican party. His death occurred at Omaha, Neb., July 10, 1881.

Thomas W. Tipton was born August 5, 1817, near Cadiz, Ohio. He was a student in Alleghany College, Meadville, Penn., and graduated from Madison College, Pennsylvania, in 1840. In 1849 he was appointed to a position in the United States Land Office, resigning in 1852. He was admitted to the bar in 1844, and began practicing law in McConnellsville, Ohio, in 1853. In 1856 he received authority to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but preferring the Congregational Church, changed his church relation. In Brownville, Neb., he served a small Congregational Church organization, for one year, as pastor, and was elected chaplain of the First Nebraska Infantry in July, 1861, in which capacity he served until the end of the war. In 1845 he was a member of the Legislature in Ohio; in 1859 was elected to a constitutional convention in Nebraska, and in 1860 was a member of the Territorial Senate. In 1865, in July, he was appointed assessor of internal revenue for Nebraska. He entered Congress on March 4, 1867, drawing a term as United States Senator. In 1869 he was re-elected for a full term of six years. In 1872 he left the dominant political party and supported Horace Greeley for president. Since that time he has sup-

ported the principles of the Democratic party, by which he was nominated, in 1880, as a candidate for governor of Nebraska. In reply to an interrogation as to the reason of his acceptance of the nomination: "I did it in order to try and keep the Republican majority down to 25,000."

John M. Thayer located in Omaha in the fall of 1854, being one of the first settlers of that place. In 1855 he went to Fontanelle to fight and subdue troublesome Indians. He was at the head of 150 men called the Territorial Militia. In the spring of 1859 he again led a force of 194 men against the Indians. He was elected a member of the Upper House of the Nebraska Legislature from 1859 to 1860, and was elected a member of the constitutional convention in the fall of 1860. When the Rebellion broke out he wrote to the Secretary of War, proposing that Nebraska should furnish one regiment. He was instrumental in organizing the First Regiment, Nebraska Infantry, and was appointed colonel of the same, organized in the spring and summer of 1861, and went to St. Louis, then to Pilot Knob and Sedalia, Mo. They then came to St. Louis, and were sent by steamer to Fort Henry, and participated in the battles of Fort Donelson and Shiloh. He was then promoted to brigadier-general, having been in command of the Second Brigade of Wallace's division at the two latter battles. Was in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post (where 4,000 to 5,000 prisoners were captured), siege of Vicksburg, and was appointed brigadier and major-general of volunteers for gallant services. He participated in the capture of Jackson, Miss., under Sherman. He was in the army of Arkansas, and participated in the battles of Prairie de Ann, Moscow, Jenkins' Ferry and Saline River. Subsequently he was placed in command of the Army of the Frontier. His military service closed in July, 1865, and he was brevetted a major-general. On the admission of the State he was elected to the United States Senate, drawing the four years ballot. In 1875 he was appointed governor of Wyoming Territory, and served one term. In the fall of 1886 he was elected governor of the State of Nebraska, and in 1888 was re-elected to that high office, being the present incumbent.

Algernon Sidney Paddock was born at Glens Falls, N. Y., November 5, 1830. He entered Glens Falls Academy in his thirteenth year, remaining until his eighteenth year, when he entered Union College. Here he remained up to his senior year, when he left and went to Detroit, Mich., but returned to New York after an absence of three months, and began teaching school and studying law meanwhile. In May, 1857, he came to Fort Calhoun, Neb., where he pre-empted a farm and settled. In 1872 he removed to Beatrice, Gage County, where he has since resided. During 1858-59 he was engaged on editorial work on the Omaha Republican. In 1860 he was a delegate to the National Republican convention in Chicago that nominated Lincoln, and the same fall stumped New York for that ticket. He assumed the position of secretary for Nebraska April 1, 1861. In 1864 Mr. Paddock was delegate to the National convention at Baltimore. Was defeated for the United States Senate in 1867. In 1868 he was nominated governor of Wyoming, but declined. In 1874 was elected to the United States Senate, serving in that capacity six years. Mr. Paddock was again a candidate for that office in 1880-81, but was defeated by C. H. Van Wyck. In 1886 he was again re-elected to the Senate, and is the present incumbent.

Alvin Saunders was born in Fleming County, Ky., on July 12, 1817. At the age of twelve his parents removed to Springfield, Ill., where they remained until he was nineteen. In 1836 he went to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, to engage in mercantile business. He was appointed first postmaster at Mount Pleasant. In 1846 he was elected to the State constitutional convention, which formed the constitution under which Iowa was admitted into the Union as a State. He was elected to the State Senate in 1854, and re-elected in 1858. He served as delegate to the first Iowa Republican State convention, and also to the Chicago convention in 1860, where he voted for Lincoln. He was appointed governor of Nebraska in 1861, and served in that capacity until Nebraska was admitted into the Union as a State, six years later. He was an earnest advocate of the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1868 he went as delegate to the Republican National convention at

Chicago. In 1876-77 he was elected United States Senator. He has, for many years, been identified with the banking interests of Omaha.

Charles F. Manderson was born in Philadelphia, February 9, 1838, where he lived until nineteen years of age, when he removed to Canton, Ohio. Here he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1860. In April, 1861, he raised Company A, Nineteenth Ohio Infantry Volunteers, and subsequently became major of that regiment, and lieutenant-colonel after the battle of Shiloh, and colonel after the battle of Stone River, in January, 1863. He was made brevet brigadier-general in February, 1865, but resigned from the service, on account of wounds, in April, 1865. Gen. Manderson removed to Omaha, in 1867, continuing his law practice. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1871 and 1875. In 1882 he was elected to the United States Senate to succeed Charles H. Van Wyck. He was re-elected in 1888 and is still serving the people of the State in the Senate.

Charles H. Van Wyck was born and grew to manhood in the State of New York. He represented the State in Congress for several terms, after which he moved to Nebraska, locating in Otoe County. He has represented the people of Otoe County in the Legislature several terms, and in 1880 was elected to the United States Senate to succeed Algernon S. Paddock. He championed the anti-monopoly cause during his term of office. In 1886 he was a candidate for re-election, but was defeated by his former opponent, A. S. Paddock, after one of the hottest political contests ever witnessed in the State.

James Laird, for six years member of Congress from the Second Congressional district of Nebraska, was born at Fowlerville, N. Y., on June 20, 1849. While he was yet a child his parents removed to Michigan. He had received a good academic education before the breaking out of the war, and on July 24, 1862, entered the service as a private in Company G, Sixteenth Michigan Infantry, in which regiment he served during the war. After serving in the ranks two years, he was several times promoted and reached the rank of brevet-major before he was seventeen years of age. Two of his older

brothers entered the service at the same time, and both were killed in action. Mr. Laird was engaged in all the battles of the Potomac except when disabled by wounds received in action. He received several severe wounds at Gaines Mill, was shot through the body and left for dead. He was twice wounded at Gettysburg, and at Laurel Hill received a sabre thrust through the right shoulder; had his horse shot from under him at Hatch's Run, and was wounded in the ankle. All his promotions were received for service. He was, upon several occasions, mentioned in general orders for bravery and conduct.

After the war he received a good education at Adrian College and the University of Michigan, graduating from the law school of that institution as a law student in 1871. In 1872 he emigrated to this county and commenced the practice of law. His first public service in this State was in 1875, when he was elected a member of the constitutional convention. In 1880, after the taking of the census, the State of Nebraska was re-districted and three Congressional districts organized. In 1882 Mr. Laird was elected to the XLVIIIth Congress and re-elected in 1884-86-88. This district embraces twenty-five counties. The demands of so large a district impose an arduous duty upon its member, but Mr. Laird has been able to meet all demands made upon him.

It has been noticed of late years that many of the younger members of the House have shown more good sense in the framing of laws than some of their older colleagues are willing to give them credit for. Among this class of young statesmen was Hon. James Laird. In the XLVIIIth Congress, as member of the committee on military affairs, he displayed great zeal in the interest of ex-Union soldiers in his efforts to secure them back pay and bounty. He championed the rights of settlers on the public lands in the West, and more especially in Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado.

In the season of 1885-86 he was active in behalf of the working men throughout the country, and as a member of the military committee of the House, rendered valuable service in behalf of his comrades. The debate over the bill for the relief of certain

officers and soldiers of the volunteer army was led by himself, and was considered remarkable in the House. The bill carried relief to veteran soldiers who were promoted from the ranks after re-enlistment, and also bounty to the privates who were discharged prior to two years' service and not on account of wounds.

The Southern members, after filibustering over this measure until nearly morning, offered to allow the bill to pass, giving relief to the officers, if Mr. Laird would permit them to strike out that portion of carrying the benefits to the private soldiers. This Mr. Laird emphatically refused to do and the bill was defeated. Mr. Laird was always regarded as a good parliamentary debator, and a hard worker. During the hours of session he was always found in his seat unless occupied with committee work. His course in Congress was most creditable to himself and the State of Nebraska. At each re-election he was returned to Congress with a large and increased majority. He was becoming strong and influential with his party in the House, and would soon have become one of the foremost men in Congress had not death ended his career while he was in the prime of life. During his last term in Congress his arduous labors undermined his health. Every effort was made by his friends to restore his health, and the best medical talent in the United States was called into service; but his usually robust constitution had received too great a shock, and on Saturday morning, August 17, 1889, the breath of life left his long suffering frame, and James Laird was at rest. He was buried in Parkview cemetery at Hastings, Neb., on August 19, 1889, with the most imposing funeral rites ever witnessed in Nebraska.

Hon. T. M. Marquette, Nebraska's first Congressman, came to Nebraska in 1856 and located at Plattsmouth. He commenced the practice of law in 1857, and took an active interest in politics. He represented Cass County in the Territorial Legislature in 1857, 1858 and 1859. In 1860 he was elected to the Council, and held that position four years, declining a fifth nomination. Upon the admission of the State he was elected to represent Nebraska in Congress. His term of office expired

two days after he had taken his seat, and he declined re-election. He has been the general attorney for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad ever since that road was built into the State. His home is at Lincoln.

Hon. Lorenzo Crounse represented Nebraska in Congress from 1872 to 1876. He was born in New York State on January 27, 1834. He received his education in that State, and was admitted to the bar in 1856. He continued in the practice of his profession until 1865, when he removed to Nebraska, settling in Richardson County. He was elected from the latter county to the Territorial Legislature in the fall of 1856, and served one term. He helped frame the first constitution of the State, and advocated its adoption. In May, 1866, he was unanimously nominated for associate justice of the Supreme Court, and was elected in June of the same year. He held the office for the full term of six years, and at the expiration of his term was elected to represent his State in Congress. At the completion of his service of four years in Congress he was appointed internal revenue collector for the State, holding the position for a number of years.

Hon. John A. McShane, who represented Nebraska in Congress from 1887 to 1889, was born in New Lexington, Perry County, Ohio, August 25, 1850. He lived in that State until 1874, when he removed to Nebraska. He engaged extensively in the cattle industry, and amassed a comfortable competency. He was elected to Congress on the Democratic ticket in 1887, and held his seat for one term.

Hon. William J. Connell was born at Cowansville, Canada, July 6, 1846, and removed to New York in 1857, where he received an academic education. In 1867 he came to Omaha, Neb., where he has since resided. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1869, and has been engaged in his profession since that date. In 1872 he was elected district attorney of the Third judicial district, and re-elected in 1874. Was appointed city attorney of Omaha in 1883, and held that position until 1887. In 1889 he was elected to the List Congress as a Republican.

Hon. Gilbert Lafayette Laws was born in Rich-

land County, Ill., on March 11, 1838; removed with his parents to Wisconsin in 1846, where he received his schooling, completing his education at Haskell University and Milton College. Leaving college, he taught school until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he enlisted in the Fifth Infantry, Wisconsin Volunteers. At the battle of Williamsburg, Va., on May 5, 1862, he received wounds which incapacitated him from active service. He returned to Wisconsin, where he resided until 1876, when he removed to Orleans, Neb., and assumed editorial management of the Republican Valley Sentinel. In 1881 he was appointed register of the United States land office at McCook, and served in that capacity until 1886, when he was elected secretary of State. He was re-elected in 1888, but resigned in 1889 to accept a seat in Congress.

Hon. George W. E. Dorsey, of Fremont, was born in Loudoun County, Va., January 25, 1842. He received his education in Preston County, W. Va., and entered the Union army in 1861, as first-lieutenant of the Sixth West Virginia Infantry; was promoted to the rank of captain and of major, and was mustered out of service with the Army of the Shenandoah, in August, 1865. He removed to Nebraska in 1866, studied law and was admitted to practice in 1869; has engaged in the banking business for the past ten years; was elected to the XLIXth, Lth and L1st Congresses, and still occupies his position.

John M. Thurston, general solicitor of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and one of the leading members of Nebraska's legal profession, was born at Montpelier, Vt., August 21, 1847. He moved to Wisconsin in 1854 and received his education and was admitted to the bar in that State. Removed to Omaha in 1869. Being a close student, a profound thinker and a brilliant orator, he rose rapidly in his profession. Held the position of city attorney of Omaha from 1874 to 1877, serving one term in the State Legislature in the meantime. In 1877 he resigned his city attorneyship to accept the position of assistant general solicitor of the Union Pacific Railway Company. In 1888 he succeeded A. J. Poppleton as general solicitor, a position which he still holds. He was elected a presidential

elector in 1880. In 1888 he was a delegate to the National Republican convention and was elected temporary chairman. In the year 1889 he was elected president of the National Republican League.

Hon. O. P. Mason, the first chief justice of Nebraska after the admission of the State, was born in May, 1829, in Madison County, N. Y., and made that State his home until 1852. He was admitted to the bar in the State of Ohio in 1854, and came to Nebraska the following year, making his residence at Nebraska City. He served in the Territorial Legislature for eight years, and in 1868 was elected chief justice, an office which he held until 1872. Since his retirement from the bench Judge Mason has practiced his profession and holds a high rank among the lawyers in the State. He is at present one of the secretaries of the State railroad commission.

J. Sterling Morton, at one time Territorial secretary and acting governor of Nebraska, was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., April 22, 1832. He moved to Michigan where he graduated at the State University, at Ann Arbor. He subsequently took a post-graduate course at Union College of New York. He came to Nebraska in November, 1854, and assumed editorial management of the Nebraska City News. In 1855 he was elected to the Territorial Legislature. In 1858 he was appointed Territorial secretary and became acting governor within a few months by the resignation of Gov. Richardson. He was the first democratic candidate for governor of the State and was defeated by but a few votes. He has been prominently identified with State and National politics, and is a member of the famous Cobden Club, of London.

Hon. Amasa Cobb, ex-justice of the Supreme Court of Nebraska, was born in Crawford County, Ill., September 27, 1823, and resided in that State until 1841, when he removed to Wisconsin. In 1847 he enlisted for the Mexican War. At the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin and continued the practice of law until the opening of the Civil War, when he recruited a regiment and was its colonel. In the fall of 1862 he was elected a member of Congress, but remained with his regiment a greater portion of the time. He was re-elected to Congress

in 1864, and again in 1866 and 1868. In 1869 he removed to Nebraska and continued in his profession. He was elected to the supreme bench in 1878 and served two terms.

George B. Lake, the second chief justice of Nebraska, was born in Greenfield, Saratoga County, N. Y., September 15, 1826. His only schooling during his minority was in the district schools of Ohio; but after he reached his majority he took a two years'

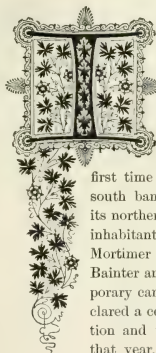
course at Oberlin College. He commenced the study of law in 1849, and was admitted to the bar in 1851. He came to Omaha in 1857 and at once assumed a high place in the ranks of the attorneys of the Territory. He served in the Territorial Legislature and was speaker of the House in 1865. In 1867 he took his place on the supreme bench, to which he had been elected the year previously. He became chief justice in 1873, and held the position until 1878.



CHAPTER IX.

COUNTIES IN THE STATE—BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCHES—DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THEIR ORIGIN—LOCATION, COUNTY SEATS, ETC.—FIRST SETTLEMENTS—GENERAL DEVELOPMENT—ADVENT OF RAILWAYS—A COMMERCIAL NECESSITY—SURVEYS OF 1853-54—BUILDING OF THE PACIFIC RAILROAD—HISTORY OF THE ENTERPRISE—CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD—THE CONSOLIDATION.

Not chaos-like, together crush'd and bruised,
But as the world, harmoniously confused;
Where order in variety we see,
And where, though all things differ, they agree.—*Pope.*



In the following pages will be found a very brief description and historical sketch of a number of the counties of Nebraska.

Adams County is named in the State records for the first time February 16, 1867, when the south bank of the Platte was fixed as its northern boundary. There were no inhabitants there at the time, although Mortimer N. Kress, Joe Fouts, James Bainter and others united or made temporary camps here. In 1871 it was declared a county by executive proclamation and the first elections were held that year. During the days of Indian warfare there were no residents to injure, but the county is not without evidence of war. In August, 1864, numbers of immigrants were given up to slaughter at the hands of the Sioux and their property, which could not be easily removed, given to the flames. In 1870 the pioneers of progress began to pour in—the earlier adventurers locating on the Blue, at Juniata, and at the point now known as Hastings City. Within a few years the county took a leading place among the political divisions of the

State, and after the county seat wars were ended, Hastings bloomed into the Queen City of the State.

Antelope County is situated in the northeastern part of the State. It contains 864 square miles, or 552,960 acres of land. The first recorded settlement was made by a French Canadian named "Ponca George," April 25, 1868. Other settlers followed in the same year. The county was raided by Indians in 1870 and 1871, but no serious depredations were committed. The county was organized by the Legislature in 1871. Its county seat is Neligh, and its principal towns are Oakdale, Neligh, Burnett, St. Clair and Clearwater.

Boone County is in the fifth tier west of the Missouri River and the third north of the Platte. It has an area of 634 square miles. The first settlements were made in April, 1871, by a party consisting of S. D. Avery, Albert Dresser, N. G. Myers, W. H. Stout, W. H. Prescott and others. Albion, the county seat, was platted in October, 1872, by Lorán Clark. The other towns are St. Edwards, Petersburg and Cedar Rapids.

Burt County is located in the eastern part of Nebraska and contains 512 square miles. It was named in honor of Francis Burt, and was organized in 1854 by Gov. Cuming, it being one of the eight original counties. Tekamah, the county seat, was

founded in 1855 by A. B. Folsom, Z. B. Wilder, John B. Folsom and others. The other towns of the county are Arizona, Decatur, Oakland and Lyons.

Buffalo County is located in nearly the central portion of the State and has an area of 900 square miles. It was first settled in 1858 by the Mormons who located at Wood River. In 1864 the county was overrun by the Indians who did a great deal of damage and frightened most of the settlers from their homes. The county was organized in 1870, with the city of Kearney as county seat. The Union Pacific Railroad was completed through the county in 1866, and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in 1872. In common with the other counties of the State Buffalo County was devastated by the grasshoppers in 1873 and 1874. Kearney, the county seat, was settled in 1870 and is to-day a city of nearly 10,000 inhabitants. By the enterprise of its citizens it has secured a fine water power by the construction of a canal from the Platte River. The prospects for Kearney becoming an important manufacturing center are bright. The other important towns of the county are Gibson, Shelton, both on the line of the Union Pacific, and Ravenna.

Butler County is located in the eastern part of the State, fifty-one miles west of the Missouri River, and contains an area of 377,600 acres. It is well watered by the Platte, Blue and other streams. The county was first visited by the Fremont exploring expedition in 1842, and the first permanent settlement was made in 1857. The county was not organized until 1868. Savannah was the county seat, but after a bitter struggle lasting four years that distinction was conferred upon David City. The first railroad built through the county was completed in 1880 by the Burlington & Missouri Company. The principal towns of Butler County are David City, Ulysses, Rising City, Brainard, Bellwood and Octavia.

The boundaries of a county named Clay were fixed by the act of March 2, 1855, and the county seat established at an imaginary town called Clayton. The act of 1856 transferred the name to the present county and defined its boundaries. By an act of February 15, 1864, an old county in the eastern part

of the State was abandoned, when the northern half was attached to Lancaster and the southern half to Gage, and by the act of February 16, 1867, the name was confirmed to the present county. The proclamation to organize was issued September 11, 1871, while the population was 356. The county seat wars were carried on up to 1879, when the center of the county was selected as the seat of justice. During the pioneer days (1857-66) the Indians inflicted many injuries on the whites, and during the raid on the California trail carried murder and rapine into the homes of the settlers. The county seat, outside the court-house, is a primitive village, but throughout the county are several towns—Sutton, Harvard, Fairfield and Edgar being the principal business centers.

Cass County, one of the original counties of the State, is located on the Missouri River. It was visited by white men as early as in 1804. The first attempt at a permanent settlement was made in 1853 by Samuel Martin. In 1856 Cass County had a population of 1,251. The county was proclaimed in 1854 by Acting Governor Cuming. Plattsmouth was selected as the county seat in 1861. The first company of Nebraska volunteers in the War of the Rebellion was organized at Plattsmouth on the same day that the news of the breaking out of the war was received. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad was built through the county in 1869, the principal shops of that company being located in Plattsmouth. The Missouri Pacific Railroad was completed through the county in 1882. Plattsmouth was founded in 1853, and contains a population of from 8,000 to 10,000. The other towns of the county are Weeping Water, Louisville, Greenwood, Rock Bluff and Avoca.

Cedar County is located in the northeast corner of the State, and has an area of 730 square miles. It was organized in 1857. In the years 1858, 1862 and 1863 the Indians committed many depredations in Cedar County, burning homes, stealing stock and murdering a few settlers. St. Helena is the county seat, and the other principal towns are St. James and Hartington.

Cheyenne County is located in the extreme western part of the State. Previous to the construc-

tion of the Union Pacific Railway the settlements in the county were few and far between. The county was organized in 1879. Sidney, the principal town, was laid out in 1867, a United States military post being established there in that year. When the Black Hills excitement was at its height Sidney became a young city, doing an immense business. But other routes to the Hills have been opened, and Sidney has lost much of the traffic that once thronged her streets.

Custer County is one of the largest counties of Nebraska, and is located in the geographical center of the State. It contains 2,590 square miles. It was not settled by the whites until 1877 and 1878. In the early days of its history Custer County was the scene of much lawlessness, but to-day is one of the most prosperous and orderly counties in the State. Its county seat is Broken Bow, a city but a few years old, but giving evidence of remarkable prosperity. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad was built through the county in 1887.

Colfax County is one of the eastern counties of Nebraska, and contains 276,480 acres of land. It was settled in 1856, but the early settlements did not flourish until the completion of the Union Pacific Railway through the county in 1868. With the advent of that road, however, the county grew rapidly in population. Schuyler, the county seat, was founded in 1869. It is a thriving little city. The only other town of importance is Benton.

Cuming County is in the northeastern part of the State, and contains 504 square miles. It was originally settled in 1856, although its boundaries were defined by a Territorial act in 1853. West Point, the county seat, was platted in 1869, and is one of the best known towns in the northeastern part of the State. Bancroft is the only other town of importance in the county.

Dakota County is situated in the northeastern part of the State, and was one of the original counties of the State. It was settled previous to 1855, and was organized on March 7 of that year. The county seat is Dakota City, founded in 1856. The other principal towns of the county are St. John's, Jackson, Homer, Hubbard and Covington.

Dawson County is situated 215 miles west of the

Missouri River, and contains 1,008 square miles. In the times of the old overland freight and emigrant traffic, Dawson County presented many lively aspects. Ranches were established every few miles along the route. The county was settled in 1861-63. On August 7, 1864, the Indians made a general attack upon all white settlements along the Fremont trail, the first attack being made in Dawson County on eleven emigrants in one party. Troops were sent to the scene of the outbreak, and the Indians were finally driven back. Plum Creek, the county seat, was established in 1871. In 1889 the name of this town was changed to Lexington. The other towns of Dawson County are Overton and Cozad. The latter place from its location was formerly known as Handredth Meridian.

Dixon County is in the northwestern part of the State, and was organized in 1858. Previous to the advent of the whites Dixon County was the abiding place of several tribes of Indians, chief among which were the Poncas. The settlement of the county was considerably retarded in 1862, by fears of a general Indian massacre, and in pursuance to a call of the general government a military company was raised in the county for the protection of the inhabitants. Ponca, the county seat, was platted in 1856, but the growth of the town was slow until 1876, at which time the Covington, Columbus & Black Hills Railroad was completed to the place. Wakefield and Martinsburg are also thriving towns in Dixon County.

Dodge County is located in the second tier of counties from the Missouri River, and has an area of 540 square miles. The first settlement was made in 1856. On September 3, of that year, a town company was formed and the future city named Fremont, in honor of the distinguished explorer. The citizens of Fremont led a troubled existence for a time, as the Pawnee Indians had their principal village on the opposite side of the Platte River, and looked upon the advent of the pale face with considerable disfavor. A military company was stationed there until all fears of an outbreak were allayed. The financial panic of 1857 retarded the growth of Fremont and Dodge County considerably, some of the settlers being compelled to borrow money at 60 per

cent to tide them over their difficulties. The Union Pacific Railroad was built through the county in 1866, and from that time the population rapidly increased. In 1869 the Sioux City & Pacific Railroad was built into Fremont, and the same year the construction of the Elkhorn Valley branch of that line was commenced. To-day Fremont has a population of 10,000, and is growing rapidly. The other towns of Dodge County are North Bend, Scribner, Pebble and Hooper.

Douglas County, in the eastern part of the State, was one of the original counties proclaimed by Acting Governor Cuming. The first important settlements were made at Florence by the Mormons in 1844; but after the exodus to Salt Lake City the county was uninhabited for a number of years. The particulars of the permanent settlement of Douglas County are given in another chapter of this volume. Omaha, the county seat of Douglas County, and the metropolis of the State, was founded in 1854 by Jesse and Enos Lowe, A. D. Jones and others. In that same year the Territorial capital was located at Omaha, and the city at once became the principal town of the Territory. In 1856 the young city began to grow rapidly. Early in that year a number of brick blocks were put up. Banks and newspapers were established, and schools and churches erected. The panic of 1857, of course, had its depressing effect on Omaha's prosperity, but the tide which had set in was not checked long. In 1859 business of all kinds revived to a wonderful extent. In 1860 it was estimated that the city had 1,500 buildings, and 4,000 inhabitants. During the war the growth of the city was slow. On December 3, 1863, ground was broken for the Union Pacific Railroad, and from that time onward Omaha grew more rapidly. In 1867 the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was completed to the city. In 1870 the city had a population of 16,000. In the decade that elapsed from 1870 to 1880 the growth of the place was but little short of wonderful. In the latter year the population had increased to 36,000. To-day Omaha is a city of 150,000 people, and is growing at an unprecedented rate.

Dundy County is situated in the extreme southwestern part of the state. It is one of the newer

counties, having been settled and organized since 1883. Its county seat is Benkleman. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad was completed through the county in 1882.

Fillmore County is located about twenty-four miles north of the southern boundary of the State, and has a superficial area of 576 square miles. The first settlements in the county were made in June, 1866, by William Bussard and William Whitaker. These two men were the only settlers of the county until 1868, when a few more settlers came to the locality. It was not until 1870, however, that the rush of immigration commenced. The county was organized in 1871. In that year Geneva and Fairmount were laid out, Geneva being made the county seat. The other towns of the county are Grafton, founded in 1874, and Exeter, founded in 1871. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was built through the county in 1871. In 1888 the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley line was extended through the county.

Franklin County is in the southern tier of counties of the State, 175 miles west of the Missouri River, and has an area of 576 square miles. It was settled in 1870 by a colony from Omaha, and in the following year a military company, including every man in the colony, was formed for protection against the Indians. The county was formally organized in September, 1871. Bloomington, the county seat, was laid out in 1872. The Burlington & Missouri Railroad was extended through the county in 1879. The United States land office is located at Bloomington, but at the present writing nearly all of the public lands have been taken up. The principal towns of the county are Franklin, Riverton and Naponee.

Frontier County is situated well toward the southwestern part of the State, and has an area of 576 square miles. It was organized in 1872, at that time there being but a few settlers in the county. Stockville is the county seat and Curtis the principal town. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was built through the county in 1888.

Furnas County lies in the southern tier of counties, and contains 720 square miles. The first settler of the county was Benjamin Burton, who located

there in 1870. Other settlers followed in the same year. In the following year fully 150 settlers with their families came to the county. The county was formally organized in 1873, and the name was given it in honor of Robert W. Furnas, then governor of Nebraska. For several years the location of the county seat caused considerable strife between the citizens of Arapahoe and Beaver City, the contest being finally decided in favor of the latter. The principal towns are Arapahoe, Oxford, Beaver City and Hendley, the latter place being established by a Hastings town site company in 1888.

Gage County is in the third tier of counties west of the Missouri River, and contains 864 square miles. Its location, wealth and population make it one of the most important counties of the State. The first settler was David Palmer, who came to the county in 1854 or 1855. In 1857 a colony of thirty-five men, a number of them with families, formed a settlement which was named Beatrice, in honor of a daughter of Judge McKinney, a member of the colony. In the same year another settlement was made seven miles north of Beatrice, and still another at Blue Springs, ten miles southeast of Beatrice. The Indians caused some trouble in the early history of these settlements, but the treaties made by the government soon brought peace to the county. To a citizen of Gage County belongs the honor of having secured the first homestead entered in the United States. The homestead law went into effect on January—, 1863, and on that day Daniel Freeman took his claim. His patent is numbered 1, and is recorded in volume 1, page 1, of the records of the general land office at Washington. Beatrice, the county seat, is one of the principal cities of Nebraska, and has a population of about 12,000. The other towns of the county are Blue Springs, Wymore, Liberty, Odell, Holmesville, Adams and Caldwell.

Greeley County is situated a little northeast of the center of the State, and contains 576 square miles. Its original settlement dates back to 1871. The county was organized on October 8, 1872. The county seat was located at Scotia. The other towns of the county are O'Connor and Spaulding.

Gosper County is in the western part of the

State, and contains an area of 448 square miles. It was settled in 1872 and was organized in 1873. Owing to the lack of railroad facilities, the county's population increased slowly until after the year of 1882, since which time it has enjoyed a rapid and steady growth. Homerville is the county seat.

Hall County boundaries were established by the act of November 4, 1858, with the Platte River forming the southern boundary. The act of February 1, 1864, re-defined such boundaries. This act was repealed on February 15, and not until March 1, 1871, were the present Congressional boundaries fixed. The settlement dates back to July 2, 1857, when a party of Germans and a few Americans arrived here. During the first decade of pioneer life the Indians committed some depredations and murders here, and would have extended the work of rapine had the people not erected Fort Independence and O. K. Fort. The county forms one of the richest agricultural districts west of the Missouri, and here, in 1889, the headquarters of the beet sugar industry were established. In early years the Spaniards are said to have explored this section, but not until 1739 are there records of actual exploration. In that year the French party, referred to in other pages, traversed the valley of the river and named the broad stream *La riviere Platte*.

Hamilton County is located nearly in the central portion of the State, and contains an area of over 500 square miles. Its first permanent settlement was made in 1866. The county was organized in 1870, the county seat then being located at Orville, but after a bitter contest lasting for several years it was moved to Aurora, in 1876. To-day Aurora is a thriving town of 2,000 inhabitants, and the junction of two branch lines of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad.

Harlan County is located in the southwest part of the State, and contains an area of 576 square miles. Its first settlement dates back to 1870. The county was organized in 1871. Alma, the county seat, was founded in 1872. The other towns of the county are Orleans, Republican City and Melrose.

Hitchcock County is located in the southwestern part of the State and contains 720 square miles.

It was first permanently settled in 1869 by ranchmen. It was not until 1872 that the farmers settled in any numbers. The county was organized in 1873. In the fall of that year the memorable fight between the Sioux and the Pawnee Indians took place, in which the latter were defeated with terrible loss. Culbertson is the county seat and principal town.

Howard County is situated in the fertile Loup Valley and contains an area of 576 square miles. It was settled in 1870 and formally organized in the following year. St. Paul is the county seat and the principal city. The other towns are Dannebrog and St. Libory.

Hayes County is in Southwestern Nebraska and contains 576 square miles. It has been settled and developed since 1882. Hayes Centre is the county seat and principal town.

Holt County is one of the largest counties in the State, containing 2,412 square miles. It was settled in 1872 and formally organized in 1876. O'Neill is the county seat, and the other towns of the county are Stuart, Paddock, Ford and Atkinson.

Jefferson County was first known as Jones County in the early history of Nebraska, but in 1871 the boundaries of the present county were defined by an act of the Legislature. The county contains 576 square miles and was originally settled in 1855 or 1856. The Indians were extremely troublesome in the early history of the county. Fairbury, the county seat, was laid out in 1869. It is a thriving young city of about 5,000 inhabitants and quite a railroad center. The other towns of the county are Steele City and Endicott.

Johnson County is situated in the southeastern part of the State and contains 378 square miles. It was first settled in 1856 and formally organized in 1857. Its county seat is Tecumseh and its other towns, Sterling, Elk Creek, Helena, Vesta and Spring Creek.

Keith County is situated in Western Nebraska and contains an area of 2,016 square miles. It was organized in 1873. Ogalalla is its county seat and principal town.

Knox County was organized by the Territorial Legislature in 1857, and named L'Ean Qui Court, that being the French name for the River Nebraska.

The name was changed to Knox in 1873. In its early history the white settlers disputed with the Ponca Indians for the possession of their lands, but happily no bloodshed occurred. The Santee Sioux reservation is situated in the northern part of the county. Niobrara is the county seat, while Creighton and Bazile Mills are thriving towns.

Lancaster County is situated fifty miles west of the Missouri River and contains 864 square miles. It was first settled in 1857 and formally organized in 1859. Lincoln was chosen as the State capital in 1867. It is the second city of Nebraska and is growing rapidly. The State house was completed in 1889, and is one of the handsomest buildings of the kind in the West. The State University, State Penitentiary and State Insane Hospital are located at Lincoln. The Wesleyan and Advent Colleges are also located in the city. Lincoln is also the most important railway center in the State, the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad and numerous branch lines, the Union Pacific, Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley and Missouri Pacific roads centering here. The United States court house was erected in 1889, at a cost of \$200,000. The other towns of Lancaster County are Bennet, Waverly, Firth and Roca.

Lincoln County is located in the western central part of the State and contains an area of 2,592 square miles. It was originally settled in 1858, although the county had been repeatedly visited by fur traders and explorers, as far back as the year 1762. The great overland trail passed through this county, over which from 1,000 to 2,000 emigrant and freight wagons traveled daily. Fort McPherson was established in the county by the government in 1863. The county was organized in 1860. North Platte, the county seat, was laid out in 1866, and is the leading city of Western Nebraska. It is the home of William F. Cody, or "Buffalo Bill."

Madison County is east of the central part of the State and contains 576 square miles. It was settled in 1865 and formally organized in 1868. Norfolk is the principal town of the county, as well as of Northern Nebraska. The other towns of the county are Madison, which is the county seat, and Battle Creek.

Merrick County is situated in the Platte Valley and contains 468 square miles. It was first settled in 1859, but formally organized in 1858. Central City is the county seat and principal town and was laid out in 1866. The other towns of the county are Clark's, Silver Creek and Chapman.

Nance County lies near the central part of the State and contains an area of 450 square miles. It was first settled in 1857 and was formally organized in 1879. Fullerton is the county seat. Genoa, one of the principal towns, was first settled in 1860. One of the principal Indian schools of the country is located at this point.

Nebraska County was known during the early years of the Territorial organization as Forney County, but its present name was given it at the first session of the Territorial Legislature. The particulars of the settlement of the county are given in the main body of this sketch. The principal towns of Nebraska County are Brownville, Carson, London and Peru (the State Normal school being located at the latter place), Auburn, Brock, Aspinwall, Johnson, Clifton, St. Deroin, Febing and Bedford.

Nuckolls County is situated in the southern tier of counties, 100 miles west of the Missouri River. Its settlement dates back to 1858. It was formally organized in 1871. The earlier settlers had considerable trouble with the Indians, and in 1866 every settler was driven from the county. Many settlers were killed during the Indian troubles, and it was not until 1869 that hostilities entirely ceased. Nelson is the county seat, although Superior is the principal town of the county. Hardy is also a thriving town.

Otoe County is centrally located on the Missouri River in Southwestern Nebraska. It has a river frontage of eighteen miles and contains about 390,000 acres. The first settlement was made in 1846, when the United States government established, on the present site of Nebraska City, a military post, called Fort Kearney. In the fall of 1848, the post was abandoned for new Fort Kearney on the Platte River. Nebraska City is the county seat of Otoe and also its principal town. Other towns of Otoe County worthy of notice are Syracuse, Palmyra and Dunbar.

Pawnee County is in the southeastern part of the State and contains 276,480 acres of well watered and tillable land. It was first settled in 1854, at a little village called Cincinnati, about fourteen miles from the present site of Pawnee City. The county seat is Pawnee City. Table Rock and Cincinnati are thriving towns.

Pierce County was created in 1859, by the Territorial Legislature. It contains 368,640 acres of land. The first settlement was made in 1866. Pierce, the present county seat, was founded in 1870. Plainview and Colbergen are post offices in this county.

Phelps County is situated on the divide between the Platte and Republican Rivers. The early settlers were much troubled with the Indians, and little was done toward the settlement till 1872-73, when a heavy immigration commenced, and the country is now nearly all occupied. Holdrege is the county seat.

Platte County is the fourth in the tier of eastern counties. It comprises 684 square miles or 437,760 acres of land. Its settlement dates back to 1856. In the summer of 1863, the Sioux made numerous raids, murdering settlers and burning property. The Union Pacific Railway reached Columbus, the county seat, in June, 1866, and from that time the growth of the county has been rapid. Columbus is the county seat and a thriving city. Other points of business importance in the county are Humphrey and Platte Center.

Polk County is the fourth county west of the Missouri River, in the fourth tier of counties from the south. It contains 450 square miles or 288,000 acres of land all susceptible of cultivation. It was originally part of Butler County, but, by act of Legislature, was included in its present boundaries, and the county seat was located in August, 1870, at Osceola. In 1887 Osceola furnished Nebraska with a speaker of the House of Representatives in the person of Hon. Albinus Nance, who later filled the gubernatorial chair. Stromsburgh, a large, thriving town, was organized in 1872.

Red Willow County is in the southern tier of counties, and lies in the Republican Valley. In extent it is twenty-four miles from north to south and

thirty miles from east to west. It was first settled in 1871, and organized as a county in 1873. Indianola is the county seat of Red Willow County. McCook being the end of the division, midway between the Missouri River and Denver, on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in Nebraska, is a prosperous town, with machine shops and large round house.

Richardson County occupies the southeastern corner of the State, and comprises 550 square miles. The county was settled in 1854. The first election was held in the fall of 1854, ten votes being cast. Falls City, the county seat of Richardson County, was incorporated in 1858. Other towns worthy of mention are Humboldt, Rulo, Salem, Dawson and Stella.

Saline County lies in the third tier of counties from the Missouri River, and in the second from the south line of the State. The first permanent settlement began in 1858, but the country was not organized until February 18, 1867. The early settlers suffered somewhat from the depredations of the Indians. Saline County in its early days was greatly agitated over the location of the county seat, and several contests were the result. The seat of government was first located at Swanton, where it remained until 1871, when, after a spirited contest in which the city of Crete was a competitor, it was removed to Pleasant Hill. In 1877 another election was held and Wilber and Crete contested for the honor. Wilber was the choice and is now the county seat. Crete is a large and growing town, with unrivaled water facilities. It is a railroad center and has important educational interests. Here is located Doane College, which was opened in 1872, under the auspices of the Congregational Church. Other places of business importance in the county are De Witt, Dorchester, Friend, Pleasant Hill, Swanton and Western.

Sarpy County was named in honor of one of Nebraska's pioneers, Col. Peter A. Sarpy, who came to Bellevue in 1823 as agent for the American Fur Company. This company had had a trading post at this point since 1810, and there are also accounts of the exploration and settlement of Sarpy earlier than that date. Although it was among the earliest

to be settled, it was not until 1857 that it was organized as a county, being until that time a part of Douglas County. The first Nebraska postoffice was established at Bellevue in 1848. It was at Bellevue that the first Territorial governor died, having only been in the Territory ten days. Bellevue expected to secure the capital, but owing to the death of Gov. Burt was disappointed, as Gov. Cuming located it at Omaha. Sarpy indulged in a county seat contest, and the county seat was located at Papillion, where it now remains. Springfield is a thriving town.

Saunders County is in the second tier of counties west of the Missouri River. It embraces 483,840 acres of rich, loamy soil. The first settlers arrived in March, 1857. The county was organized by a general election held October 8, 1867, and the county seat located at Ashland. The county seat was removed to Wahoo in 1873, and that place is the present county seat of Saunders County. Other towns worthy of mention are Weston, Valparaiso. Clear Creek and Mead.

Seward County is located about sixty miles west of the Missouri River. It includes an area of 576 square miles, rich in agricultural resources, being watered by the Big Blue River with its numerous tributaries. The first settlement made in the county was by Daniel Morgan and his three sons, who located a preemption claim in the fall of 1858. Seward is the county seat of Seward County. Milford and Utica are also located in this county.

Sherman County lies nearly in the center of the State, and is twenty-four miles square. The county was first settled by a party of men from Grand Island, who had received authority from the State government to form a county organization. The day appointed for the election was April 1, 1873, and resulted in the organization of Sherman County, and the county seat at Loup City, where it still remains.

Stanton County has an area of 432 square miles, or 253,303 acres. Its date of settlement is 1865. Stanton is the county seat.

Thayer County is about one hundred miles west of the Missouri River. It is twenty-four miles square, and contains 368,640 acres of land well

watered with numerous streams. The Indians gave a great deal of trouble in the early history of the county. The first settlers came in 1858, but the county was very little settled until after the close of the Civil War, when the United States government could protect the frontier from the depredations of the Indians. The first election held in Thayer County proper was in October, 1871. The county seat is Hebron. Alexandria, Hubbell, Carleton, Belvidere, Davenport, Chester, Friedensburg and Harbine are the other towns in Thayer County.

Valley County is located not far from the center of the State, and is in extent twenty-four miles square. It is one of the best watered counties in Central Nebraska, the North Loup River with its numerous creeks crossing the county. The first actual settlement in the county was in April and May, 1872, by a party of Danes. The county was organized in 1873, and the county seat was located on the site of the present town of Ord. North Loup is also a prosperous town in Valley County.

Washington County is situated on the eastern border of the State, midway from north to south. It contains 400 square miles, or 256,000 acres. In 1859 the settlers and Indians engaged in what is known as the "Pawnee War," after which the settlers were unmolested. Blair is the county seat of Washington County.

Wayne County lies in the northeastern portion of Nebraska. It embraces 322,560 acres of land. Its date of settlement is the summer of 1868. Wayne is the county seat.

Webster County is situated in the southern tier of counties, about 150 miles west of the Missouri River. It is in extent twenty-four miles square, and consists of land well watered by the Republican River which flows across its entire breadth. The first settlement made in the county was in the spring of 1870 by the members of the Rankin Colony. They located at Guide Rock. The same season, Silas Garber, afterward the governor of the State of Nebraska, pushed on up the river to where Red Cloud now is, and made a settlement. Webster County was organized in 1871. Red Cloud is the county seat and largest town. Guide Rock, Blue Hill, Cowles and Amboy are located in Webster County.

York County is about ninety miles west of the Missouri River, and about sixty from the south line of the State. The first settlement of York County was the establishment of five posts for purpose of furnishing supplies to travelers on what was known as the "Old Government" or "California Trail," which led through the region now known as York County. The first permanent settlement was made in February, 1865, by John Anderson who, with his son William, took up homestead claims, and are honored as the pioneer settlers. The county was organized in 1870, before that being a part of Seward County. At the same election the county seat was located at York, where it still remains. Bradshaw and Waco are other towns worthy of mention in York County.

Within the past four years a number of new counties have been organized in the western and northwestern parts of the State. In 1880 Sioux County comprised within its limits about one-fifth of the entire superficial area of the State. The railroads had not as yet been built through that part of Nebraska, settlements were few and far between, and there was really but little need of county organization. But the rapid development of the north and western portions of the State, brought about by the construction of many lines of railroad, has entirely changed the map of Nebraska. Out of Sioux County have been formed the counties of Sioux, Grant, Arthur, Hooker, McPherson, Keya Paha, Brown, Cherry, Sheridan, Dawes, Box Butte, Scott's Bluff, Deuel, Rock, Banner, Kimball and Logan. That part of Keith County lying south of the Platte River has also been erected into a separate county, known as Perkins County, and the northern half of Dundey County given a separate organization, and called Chase County. The settlement and organization of these counties has been of too recent a date to admit of anything like a historical sketch. They are developing rapidly, and will soon be as populous and wealthy as many of their older sister counties of Nebraska.

Kearney County is situated in Southern Nebraska, and has an area of 576 square miles. The history of the county dates back to 1848, when Fort Kearney was established by the government.

but the settlements made in and around this military post were of a temporary character. Permanent settlers began to arrive in 1867, and their numbers increased so rapidly that in 1872 a permanent county organization was formed. Lowell was at that time the most important town and the county seat. In 1878, however, Minden was selected as the county seat. The other towns of Kearney County are Lowell and Newark.

Thurston County is one of the newest counties of Nebraska. It was organized by the Legislature of 1888-89, and was formed of the territory embraced in the Omaha Indian Reservation. It is situated on the Missouri River, between Burt and Dakota Counties.

Under the different treaties with Great Britain and France, America's right to the country north of the forty-second parallel—now the States of Oregon and Washington—was conceded. Texas was admitted in 1845 and in 1848 California and the Territories of New Mexico and Utah had become a part of the Union. In this way the government acquired a vast territory, rich in agricultural and mining resources which would very materially increase the wealth and influence of the Nation if it could once be utilized. Commercially, it was rapidly becoming necessary that some means for communication between the East and the West should be provided. In all ages, mankind has sought the shortest, most expeditious and economical route to market. The Panama route superseded the route to California by the way of the Cape of Good Hope. The freighters across the American Desert shortened the route again, but the time came when, not shorter, but more expeditious means were essential.

Politically, also, it was seen to be necessary, as the breaking out of the late war demonstrated the fact that the isolation of California involved a peril to the Union.

The necessity of building a railway connecting the East and the West had been recognized before this, however, and many plans had been proposed and rejected. In all the plans offered, Congressional aid was contemplated and suggested, the only point of difference being the manner in which this aid should be given.

In 1853-54 nine routes were surveyed across the continent on various parallels between British America and Mexico, under the supervision of Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War. The results were submerged in the interests of the extreme southern line. It was thought impracticable to build a road through the central portion of the continent because of the barriers in the way in the shape of the Rocky Mountains. There were engineers, however, who urged that the geography of the country and other features of excellence demonstrated, incontestibly, that the old Mormon trail up the north side of the Platte River was the most available.

In June, 1857, a number of distinguished gentlemen from various portions of the United States visited Omaha, and conferred with interests and corporations having in view the construction of the Pacific road by way of the Platte River and South Pass. They examined the city and vicinity, visited the Platte River, and united in recommending that an appeal to Congress be made for such reasonable grant of land and other aid as would give an impulse to the building of the road.

From the earliest days of the Territory, the people and official representatives of Nebraska favored the speedy completion of a line through the Valley of the Platte. By referring to the proceedings of the Legislature, it will be seen that this was one of the first and most cherished hopes of the new country. Every governor from Cuming to Saunders advocated the measure, and most urgent spirit was manifested throughout the decade from 1855 to 1865.

On January 20, 1858, the committee, which had been appointed to inquire into the subject, reported through Senator Gwin, of California, a bill which proposed to locate the road at some point between the Big Sioux and Kansas Rivers to San Francisco. The bill provided for the donation of alternate sections of land on each side of the route, and \$12,500 per mile, the same to be advanced upon the completion of every twenty-five miles of road, until \$25,000,000 were reached; the amounts thus advanced to be returned in mail service and transportation of men and munition of war; 5 per cent of

the stock to be issued, the President of the United States to receive bids and locate the road. The bill, however, was killed in the Senate. At the session in 1859-60, another effort was made and a bill introduced into the house by Mr. Curtis, of Iowa. It provided for the construction of a road across the continent, with branches from two points on the navigable waters of the Missouri, to converge and unite within 200 miles of that stream, thence on to the navigable waters of the Sacramento.

In January, 1859, a memorial was adopted by the citizens of Omaha, and addressed to Congress, for a Pacific railroad up Platte Valley. This document set forth the advantages of the central route very clearly. This was circulated throughout the Territory of Nebraska and being heartily approved, was forwarded to Washington.

After a month's discussion of the Curtis bill and its amendments by Congress, a motion to strike out all after the enacting clause, and authorizing the President of the United States to receive bids to contract for the construction of three routes to the Pacific, same to be submitted to the XXXVIIIth Congress, prevailed.

Early in 1862 the question was again agitated and plans began to take definite shape. On February 5, 1862, Mr. Rollins, of Missouri, by unanimous consent introduced a bill to aid in constructing a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the government the use of same for postal, military and other purposes. It was substantially the same bill that Gen. Curtis had submitted the previous session. A number of amendments were offered and accepted, and the final vote in the House resulted in its adoption, and the bill was sent to the Senate for concurrence. After numerous amendments made by the Senate and accepted by the House, the bill was finally approved, and became a law July 1, 1862.

Among other things for which this bill provided was that certain men, their names being given, together with five commissioners, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, were hereby created and erected into a body corporate and politic in law and deed, by the name, style and title of "The Union Pacific Railroad Company."

The bill further provided for the laying out and construction of a continuous railroad and telegraph line, with the appurtenances, from a point on the one hundredth meridian of longitude west of Greenwich, between the south margin of the Republican River and the north margin of the valley of the Platte River, in the Territory of Nebraska, to the western boundary of Nevada Territory; for the amount of capital stock; the appointment of commissioners and other officers; the election of directors; the right of way through public lands; the extinguishment of Indian titles; the donation of alternate sections, except mineral lands; the conveyance of lands upon completion of forty consecutive miles of road, and the issue and payment of bonds therefor; the designation of the route of the road; time of completion; for the completion of the main line in 1876; the company to make annual reports containing names of stockholders and directors, amount of stock subscribed, description of lines of road surveyed, and cost, receipts and expenses; also of general indebtedness.

Subsequently an act amendatory of this act creating the corporation was introduced into Congress, directing that the first meeting be held in Bryan Hall, in the city of Chicago, on the first Tuesday of September, 1862. The objects of the meeting were the completion of the organization and the opening of subscription to the capital stock. The meeting was held as provided, Gen. A. R. Curtis presiding, with an attendance of twenty-three commissioners. The convention was permanently organized by the election of W. B. Ogden, of Illinois, as president, and H. V. Poor, of New York, as secretary. A committee of thirteen was appointed to advise and co-operate with the officers, and the meeting adjourned subject to call of the president and secretary.

On October 29, 1863, this great enterprise was formally organized at a meeting held in New York City, by the election of a board of thirteen directors, on the part of the stockholders, and the appointment of two directors on the part of the government, as follows, pursuant to the charter: George Opdyke, John A. Dix, T. C. Duvant, E. W. Dunham, P. Clark, E. T. M. Gibson, J. F. D. Louier, G. T. M. Davis, A. G. Jerome, August Belmont, L. C. Clark,

Charles Tuttle, Henry V. Poor, and George Griswold, New York City; J. V. L. Pruyn, Albany; E. H. Rosekrans, Glens Falls; A. A. Lowe, San Francisco; W. B. Ogden and J. F. Tracy, Chicago; Nathaniel Thayer and C. A. Lombard, Boston; C. S. Bushnell, New Haven; J. H. Scranton, Scranton; J. Edgar Thompson, Philadelphia; Ebenezer Cook and John E. Henry, Davenport; H. T. McComb, Wilmington, Del.; Augustus Kontze, Omaha; John J. Blair, Belvidere, N. J.; and S. C. Pomeroy, Atchison, Kan.

The question now arose as to what place the president would select as the initial point of the road, and from the beginning it was asserted by many that Omaha or Council Bluffs offered superior advantages and inducements. In support of this conclusion, the advocates of these places argued that at that time four lines of railroads had been projected and were in process of construction across the State of Iowa to points on the Missouri River—one with the avowed purpose of making Council Bluffs its western terminus. Another had abandoned its original plans and seemed to be making for the same point. Further, that there were many evidences that the Burlington & Missouri road, which was built for a distance of 100 miles west of Burlington, would be diverged to a point as near as practicable to, but south of the Platte River.

These arguments and considerations undoubtedly weighed the balance in favor of Omaha, for on December 2, 1863, the engineer of the road received a telegram announcing that the President of the United States had fixed the initial point of the road on "the western boundary of the State of Iowa" opposite Omaha, and directing him finally to "break ground" and inaugurate the great work of that day.

At 2 o'clock, on the date indicated, impressive ceremonies were held at the grounds donated to the railway company by the city. The "first shovelful of earth" was removed by Gov. Saunders, Mayor Kennedy, of Omaha, and Mayor Palmer, of Council Bluffs, amid the roar of artillery from either shore of the Missouri. These proceedings were followed by addresses by Gov. Saunders, Mayor Kennedy, A. J. Poppleton, and George Francis Train, of New

York, the festivities concluding with a grand banquet and ball, and a general illumination of the city.

Work was commenced at once, and progressed expeditiously and satisfactorily through 1864. To aid in the construction of the great National Highway, the United States government conferred upon the Union Pacific a magnificent land grant amounting to 12,000,000 of acres, or 19,000 square miles. These lands are contained in alternate sections of one square mile each, within a breadth of twenty miles on either side of the railroad, and extend along its entire line.

The road had been located and placed under contract from the west bank of the Missouri River, a distance of 100 miles westerly, in the great valley of the Platte River, and surveys continued from that point to the one hundredth meridian of longitude. But in the fall of 1864 Jesse L. Williams, one of the government directors, and Silas Seymour, consulting engineer of the road, visited this portion of the line entering the Great Platte Valley at the crossing of the Elkhorn River, and on their return to New York united in a recommendation that the company change the location of the line between the Missouri River and the Platte Valley for the purpose of avoiding the heavy grades of eighty feet per mile.

The matter was laid before the board of directors at their meeting in January, 1865, when a resolution was adopted approving of the change, provided the facts assumed in the arguments of the government director and consulting engineer, in relation to the topography of the country and feasibility of the proposed line, should be borne out by actual surveys. A survey of the proposed route was accordingly made, which showed results much more favorable than had been assumed, and the work of grading was therefore suspended upon the old line, and commenced upon the new.

This change was strongly protested against both by Omaha and by the Burlington & Missouri Railroad Company; the former, because it would injure their city by the proposed change of route, as rapid improvements had been made and a large amount of capital invested about that city and Council Bluffs with full faith that the location was permanent. The Burlington & Missouri protested

because the proposed change would encroach somewhat on the territory and grants which had been appropriated to them to aid in the extension of their road. However, the proposed change of route was approved of by President Andrew Johnson on September 23, 1865. While this action was severely condemned by the citizens of Omaha and Council Bluffs, the benefits to be derived by the former city and the country around soon manifested themselves.

During the winter of 1865 the track was laid as far west as Columbus. On Tuesday, March 13, 1866, it was announced that sixty miles of the road had been completed, and awaited examination by the commissioners of the government. This examination took place April 16, 1866. In July, 1866, 135 miles were announced as ready for the "cars" west of Omaha.

While the Union Pacific had nearly crossed the plains of Nebraska, and was rapidly approaching the Rocky Mountain range, the Central Pacific from the west was making equally gratifying headway. During the fall of 1867, the last and greatest of the tunnels of the western link was opened, and the crossing of the Sierra Nevada Mountains into the great Salt Lake Basin was effected. Early in 1868 the Union Pacific pierced the rich mineral regions of the mountains, and continued its movement toward the Pacific.

The race between the Union and Central Pacific to build the greatest number of miles caused much rivalry and dissension, and proved very vexatious, if not damaging. The difficulties between the Union and Central Pacific were settled on April 9, 1869, under the following circumstances: It seems that the railroad committee of the House of Representatives on that date, after a stormy discussion, agreed to ask the passage of joint resolution, declaring that no bonds be issued to either corporation for the eighty-mile section between Ogden and Monument

Point until Congress arrange for the junction of the two roads.

In the meantime, and prior to the introduction of the resolution, the representatives of the two companies had met and arranged for the consolidation of the two lines. The junction was mutually agreed upon, and located at Promontory Point, between Ogden and Monument Point.

The completion of the road occurred on Monday, May 10, 1869. This event was celebrated with impressive ceremonies, amidst the rejoicings of a continent.

In 1888 there were 4,902.67 miles of railroad in Nebraska, valued at \$25,574,431.00. From 1881 to 1886 the increase in railroad building was gradual; but by 1887, 845.72 miles were constructed, and 1,072.58 miles the following year. That nearly 5,000 miles of railways should have been built within the State in twenty-two years from the commencement of the first road in 1864, and that, in 1888, the State, once a part of the "Great American Desert," as mapped out by our early geographers, should have railroads assessed for taxation at over \$25,000,000, is a matter of wonder and astonishment. The names of the railroads within the State, as reported by the State Board of Equalization in 1888, are the Union Pacific, Burlington & Missouri River, Omaha & Southwestern, Nebraska, Republican Valley, Atchison & Nebraska, Lincoln & Northwestern, Nebraska & Colorado, Chicago, Nebraska & Kansas, Omaha & Republican Valley, St. Joseph & Grand Island, Sioux City & Pacific, Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley, Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska, Republican Valley, Kansas & Southwestern, Grand Island & Wyoming Central, Omaha & North Platte, Lincoln & Black Hills, (Lincoln & Black Hills unoperated), Kansas City & Omaha, Missouri Pacific, Oxford & Kansas and Pacific.



CHAPTER X.

NEBRASKA'S IMPORTANT CITIES—SKETCH OF THEIR PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT—MATERIAL ADVANCEMENT
 NOTED—CHARACTER OF IMPROVEMENTS—PRESENT INTERESTS—ATTRACTIONS OFFERED—LINCOLN, THE
 JUDICIAL CENTER—OMAHA, THE COMMERCIAL METROPOLIS—PUBLIC PROSPERITY—EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES—THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM—EARLY ENUMERATION—SCHOOL FUNDS—STATISTICS—DENOMINATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING—LOCAL COLLEGES.

Many things impossible to thought
 Have been by need to full perfection brought.—*Dryden.*



AMONG the most interesting facts in the history of any State are those relating to its principal commercial centers. The following concise reference to a number of important towns of Nebraska serves to indicate the rapid progress made in the development of this section of country.

Beatrice, the county seat of Gage County, is pleasantly situated on rolling ground on the Big Blue River, about three miles west of the geographical centre of the county. It was founded by a colony of emigrants in 1857, and named in honor of the daughter of Judge Kinney, a member of the colony. With the organization of the county that year it was made the seat of justice thereof, and as such it still continues. In 1871 the first railroad, the Omaha & Southwestern, was completed to Beatrice, and since then several other lines have been constructed, so that at this writing seven railroads lead out from the city. Prior to the completion of the first road the growth of the place was slow, but

has since been rapid. Its first school house was built in 1862, and Mrs. Frances Butler was its first teacher. The first church organized in the place was the Methodist Episcopal, organized in 1857 or 1858. The school and church privileges of the city are now extensive. The city contains many fine business blocks, several banks and many mercantile houses, and a population bordering near to 10,000.

Blair, the seat of justice of Washington County, is situated on a beautiful plateau about two and a half miles west of the Missouri River, at the crossing of the St. Paul, Minnesota & Omaha, and the Sioux City & Pacific Railroads. The plateau was settled in 1855 by three brothers, Jacob, Alexander and T. M. Carter. The town was founded and became the seat of justice in 1869, and in 1872 it was chartered as a city of the second class. Its first school was taught, and its first church (M. E.) established the year it was founded. It is now a prosperous little city with several schools and churches and many mercantile houses, also banks and weekly newspapers. Its population reaches into the thousands.

Columbus, Platte County's judicial center, is on Loup River, and on the Union Pacific, Lincoln &

Northwestern, and Omaha & Black Hills Railroads. It was founded in 1856, by the Pawnee City Company and the Columbus Town Company consolidated, and was incorporated as a town in 1865, and became a city of the second class in 1873. It has flourishing schools, prosperous churches, good society, many mercantile houses, banks, fine public buildings and public works, newspapers, and everything constituting a growing young city.

Crete, situated on Blue River in the northeastern part of Saline County, at the crossing of two lines of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, was laid out and established in the summer of 1870, by J. C. Bickle and the town company of a railroad company. There were three or four buildings on the site when the town was laid out, and in the fall of 1870, there were seventeen. The railroad was completed to Crete in 1871, and then came a mighty impetus to the growth of the town. It was incorporated that year as a second class city, and it is now a prosperous place containing several thousand inhabitants, Doane College, a noted institution of learning, good public schools, numerous churches, banks, newspapers, many mercantile houses, and several manufacturing establishments.

Falls City, the county seat of Richardson County, in the southeast corner of the State, situated at the crossing of the Missouri Pacific and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroads, was settled and founded in 1857. It was incorporated as a city in 1860, and re-incorporated in 1867, having lost its first charter in 1863. It is now a prosperous little city of about 3,000 inhabitants, with good schools, a complement of churches, newspapers, banks, a few manufacturing establishments, numerous commercial houses, benevolent, religious and literary societies, etc., etc.

Fremont is the county seat of Dodge County. It is on the Platte River, and on the Union Pacific, at the western terminus of the Sioux City & Pacific, and also at the terminus or crossing of several other lines of railway, and was founded in 1856 by Pinney, Barnard & Co. In 1860 it became the seat of justice for the county. It is distant from Omaha forty-seven miles, and from Lincoln fifty-two miles. The first court house, a two-story brick building,

costing about \$12,000, was erected in the winter of 1867-68. The jail, costing about \$15,000, was erected in 1875. The present court house, costing \$60,000, was erected in 1889. The town was incorporated as a city of the second class in 1871. It is the outlet or market place for the products of the rich valleys of the Platte and Elkhorn. The first church at Fremont—the Congregational—was organized in 1857 by Rev. I. E. Heaton, and the first school was taught, in 1858, by Miss Charity Colson. Many denominations have since organized churches and erected comfortable and magnificent edifices, and the city contains two colleges, a large central and several other school buildings. It has the metropolitan features of a city, having street cars, gas and electric lights, water works, granite paved streets, three daily, four weekly and two monthly newspapers, a most extensive creamery, six railroads, twenty-two passenger trains daily, fine public buildings, eleven churches, eight school houses, free post delivery, five banks, a board of trade, numerous mercantile houses, and a large number of manufactories.

Its public improvements alone for the year 1889 were as follows: Court house, \$60,000; city hall, \$13,000; granite paving, \$35,000; water works extension, \$35,000; high school building, \$27,000; ward school building, \$11,000; street railway improvements, \$5,000; streets and sidewalks, \$2,500; parks, \$3,000; railroad improvements, \$8,000; electric fire alarm system, \$2,000; total, \$201,500. Fremont's population in 1880 was 3,031; in 1885 it was 5,600; on January 1, 1890, it was estimated at 10,000.

Grand Island, located on the north side of the Platte River (and only a short distance from it), and at the crossing of the Union Pacific and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroads, in Hall County, was founded in 1857 by a colony which started out from Davenport, Iowa, in May of that year. But little improvement, however, was made until the Union Pacific Railroad was completed to that point in 1866. The town then began to grow, a postoffice was established, and other improvements immediately followed. In 1869 a United States Land Office was established at Grand Island. In the spring of

1873 the town was incorporated as a city. The first church built therein was a German Roman Catholic, which was erected soon after the railroad survey of the town in 1866. Many other denominations have since organized societies and erected edifices for worship. Good schools were established early in the history of the city, and its educational facilities are now of the first class. The city contains fine public buildings and public works, newspapers, banks, many mercantile houses, and all things necessary to constitute a flourishing place.

Hastings, the county seat of Adams County, located on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, at the junction and crossing of several other railway lines, was laid out and established in 1872, by the "Hastings Town Site Company," on lands owned by Walter Micklin, a member of the company, who made the first improvement by erecting a sod house. The same year Samuel Alexander opened the first business house in the town. The postoffice was established in the fall of that year. The city had a continuous and rapid growth from its inception, on account of which it became the seat of justice for the county in 1877. In April, 1874, it was declared an incorporated town, and before the year closed it became a city of the second class. With the beginning of the town, church societies were organized, and the first school was taught by Miss Phæbe Dentoe in the spring of 1873. Space will not admit of specific mention of the phenomenal growth of the city. Suffice it to say that it has become a great railroad center, having the "Burlington" and its branches, the Hastings & Oberlin line, the Hastings & Aurora line, the Chicago & Northwestern, St. Joseph & Grand Island and the Missouri Pacific; also an educational center, having the Hastings (Presbyterian) College, the Sisters of Visitation Academy (Catholic), a fine high school, and several ward school buildings. There are eight churches, viz.: Congregational, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal, Catholic, Evangelical Association and German Evangelical. The city has five banks, a number of loan and trust companies, water works, street railways, gas and electric lights, free postal delivery, many business houses, a hospital, public library, newspapers, and all other requisites of a

substantial city. The improvements in Hastings for the single year of 1887 amounted to \$1,450,595. The site of the city is a level plain, and the streets are wide and well paved, and cross at right angles. It contains many handsome business blocks, and the residences—from the palaces to the cottages—all have a neat and stylish appearance. The population is estimated at 12,000 or more.

Kearney Junction, an important point in the Platte River Valley in Buffalo County, on the Union Pacific Railroad, at the junction therewith of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, was settled in 1871, and the same year the postoffice was established there. The town was surveyed in 1872, and both railroads were completed to it that year. In the spring of 1873 it contained about twenty buildings, and in the fall of 1874, upon a vote of the people of the county, it became the county seat. In January, 1873, it was incorporated as a town, and in April, 1874, it was incorporated as a city. The first church in Kearney Junction was the Methodist Episcopal, organized in 1871 by Presiding Elder A. G. White and Rev. A. Collins, at the residence of the latter. The Presbyterian and Congregational Churches were organized the following year, and since that time several other churches have been organized. The first school was taught in 1872 by Miss Fanny Nevins. The city has now a large central and other school houses, banking institutions, public works, and all the requisites of a growing city of several thousand inhabitants.

Lincoln, the capital of the State and county seat of Lancaster County, is situated on high rolling lands in the southeast part of the State about fifty miles west of the Missouri, and thirty miles southwest of the Platte River at its nearest point. The first settlement on the site of the city was made in 1863 by Elder J. M. Young and others composing a colony. Soon after a town was founded and named Lancaster, which name it retained until 1867, when it was chosen as the capital of the State, and the name changed to "Lincoln." At this time the town contained two country stores and four or five dwelling houses; and the county numbered about 500 inhabitants. The State capitol was erected in 1868, and has since been enlarged. In October,

1867, the survey of the city was completed. The streets running east and west were named from the letters of the alphabet commencing with "A" on the south and extending to "U" on the north, not including the letter I. The streets running north and south were numbered from First on the west to Seventeenth on the east, making thirty-seven streets, with an average length of one and a quarter miles, or an aggregate of about forty-six miles. The site, however, was cut into by a reservation on the northwest corner of about twenty acres, and another penetrating from the northeast as far as O street to the south and Fourteenth to the east. The four blocks bounded by H and K and Fifteenth and Sixteenth Streets were reserved for the capitol, another tract of the same size bounded by R and T and Tenth and Twelfth Streets was reserved for the State University, and the blocks bounded by D and F and Sixth and Eighth Streets were reserved for a park. Reservations of one block each were made for a court house, State Historical Society and a market square. All churches applying had a reservation of three lots set apart to them. The blocks were 300 feet square and laid out into twenty-four business, or twelve resident lots, with a frontage of twenty-five and fifty feet. The streets were 100 feet wide with the exception of D, J, O, S, Seventh, Eleventh and Fifteenth, which were 120 feet wide and called avenues.

The first church in Lincoln, the Congregational, was organized in August, 1866; and the first school was taught in 1867, by G. W. Peck. In April, 1868, the town was incorporated, and in 1871 it was chartered as a city. At this writing, 1890, it is only twenty-seven years since the site of the city was first settled by white men, and only twenty-three years since it was surveyed for a town. Notwithstanding this short period of time, it is now the railroad, political and educational centre of the State. Among the industries, religious and educational institutions of the city are the following: Eleven banks, the State fair, seventy factories, twenty-six schools, three great universities, three public libraries, thirty-eight churches, sixty-eight wholesale houses, thirteen temperance unions, seven building brick works, twelve miles of paved streets.

The best paper mill in the west, twenty miles of sanitary sewer, ten miles of storm water sewers, thirty-one miles of street railway, three immense paving brick works, doubled in population in three years, strong gas and electric light companies, eighteen newspapers and periodicals, the finest residences in the State of Nebraska, a government building costing a quarter of a million, five street car companies, one with a capital of \$1,000,000, six hundred telephones, connected with fifty-seven towns in Nebraska and sixty-six in Iowa, stock yards and two large beef and pork packing houses, the only conservatory of music west of Chicago, the finest pottery on the globe, the products of which go to either ocean, the finest soap factory in the West, the largest tannery in Nebraska.

Lincoln is rapidly taking a foremost position in the great Northwest as a manufacturing centre. Its wonderful shipping facilities, with twelve diverging lines of railway radiating in every direction, connect it with the railway systems of the entire country. Its population is estimated by the local press at 60,000, but this is probably too high at this time.

Nebraska City, the seat of justice of Otoe County, lies on the west bank of the Missouri River, about sixty miles south of Omaha, Neb., and 110 miles north of St. Joseph, Mo. Its site was first occupied about the year 1844, by a company of United States Dragoons who afterward erected thereupon a block house, a log cabin for the officers, and a hospital. The place was subsequently occupied by the United States Fur Company. It was permanently settled about 1852 by the Boulwares and Hiram P. Downs, the original proprietors of the site. The town was surveyed and laid out in 1854, and the following year it was incorporated. In 1856 the second land office in the State was established at Nebraska City. The first regular preaching in the place was by Rev. W. D. Gage, a Methodist missionary, in the spring of 1854, and the first school was taught in the spring of 1855. On the organization of Otoe County, in 1855, Nebraska City was made the county seat thereof. This city is now one among a number of cities each of which claims to be the third in size in the State. For

transportation it has the advantages of the river and five diverging lines of railway. It has all the requisites of a modern city.

North Platte, in Lincoln County, is situated between the North and South Platte Rivers, just above their junction, and on the Union Pacific Railroad. The town was laid out in 1866, about the time of the completion of the railroad to this point. A post-office was established, and a newspaper, *The Pioneer on Wheels*, was published, and the town began at once to grow. In 1867 it became the seat of justice for the county. The same year the Union Pacific began the erection of their machine shops and round houses, which gave the place an impetus for growth. North Platte is now a flourishing little city of several thousand inhabitants, well supplied with churches, schools and business of all kinds.

Omaha, the commercial metropolis of Nebraska, and the county seat of Douglas County, is situated on the west bank of the Missouri River, opposite to Council Bluffs, Iowa. Its site was first settled in 1854, and the same year it was surveyed and laid out into 320 blocks, each being 264 feet square, intersected by streets 100 feet wide, except Capitol Avenue and Nebraska Avenue, now called Twenty-first Street, which were made 120 feet wide, but which were given no alley in the blocks on each side of them. The lots were staked out 66x132 feet, except the business lots, which were made 22 feet wide. Three squares were reserved—Capitol Square, 600 feet; Jefferson Square, 264x280 feet, and Washington Square, 264 feet square. A park of seven blocks, bounded by Eighth and Ninth and Jackson and Davenport Streets, was laid out, but afterward given up to business purposes.

During the year 1855 Rev. Mr. Koulmer and others preached at stated periods at Omaha, and soon thereafter church societies began to be organized. The first public school was opened in November, 1859, and A. D. Jones, J. H. Kellum and Dr. G. C. Monell, composed the first school board. They employed Howard Kennedy, who taught the first school in the old Capitol building. The year 1860 found Omaha with one high and three subordinate schools. At this time the city was estimated to contain about 1,500 buildings and 4,000 inhab-

itants—a marvelous growth for its short existence. Of church organizations there were then about a dozen. During this year the city debt was reduced to \$46,000, and business was prosperous. From the beginning of the Civil War of 1861-65 until December, 1863, when the first ground was broken on the site of the city, by a pick in the hands of George Francis Train, for the Union Pacific Railway, which event gave it a new impetus and insured its future great success, Omaha's growth was not very marked.

Immediately following the close of the war a "boom" took place in the building up of Omaha. The restoration of peace and the construction of its coming railroads induced many immigrants to settle there. In January, 1867, the Northwestern Railroad was completed to the city, being the first line to give it an eastern outlet. The growth of the city was so rapid that in 1870 its population reached 16,000. During the next decade its growth was somewhat retarded by the financial panic of 1873, but notwithstanding this fact its population was more than doubled. Its most rapid growth, however, has been during the decade closing with 1890. To show the extent and wonderful growth, the following is taken from the *Omaha Daily Bee*, of January, 1890:

"Omaha, with a population of 120,000, covers an area of twenty-four and two-thirds square miles. It has 103 miles of graded streets, of which fifty-two miles are covered with pavement. The sewerage system of Omaha has a mileage of seventy-two and two-thirds miles. The total cost of these improvements up to December 31, 1889, aggregates \$5,619,954.14. Its street railways, water works, gas works and electric light works are owned and operated by chartered corporations. Its street railways have a trackage of eighty-six miles. The waterworks company has laid 120 miles of mains, and 1,113 fire hydrants are now in use. The gas company has laid forty miles of gas mains, and lights the public thoroughfares with 820 lamps. One hundred and twenty electric arc lamps have been contracted for by the city, and 560 gasoline lamps are in use in the outskirts.

• The board of public works reports public im-

provements during 1889 aggregating \$846,665.95. These expenditures represent nineteen miles of curbing, costing \$77,415.25; six and seven-tenths miles of sewers, costing \$103,668.61; eleven miles of paving, costing \$483,482.09; twenty-two and three-tenths miles of grading, costing \$182,000. The cost of sidewalks laid during the year approximates \$112,000. The amount expended on park improvements was \$55,000.

“The franchised corporations, including railways, street railway company, water works, gas and electric lighting companies, have expended \$2,010,666 in 1889 in improvements within the city. The public improvements in South Omaha for the same period are computed at \$140,000, making an aggregate of expenditure for public improvements during the year of \$3,160,325.75.

“The building record of the year includes 1,918 buildings of all grades, costing in the aggregate \$7,064,556. Of these structures ninety-six were business blocks, mills and factories costing in excess of \$2,500 each, 336 were residences costing in excess of \$2,500, 1,434 were stores, dwelling and miscellaneous buildings, ranging in cost below \$2,500 each, and twenty-two were churches and school-houses, ranging in cost from \$10,000 to \$100,000. There were also 106 buildings erected in South Omaha, aggregating in cost \$412,106, and fifty-eight residences were erected in Dundee place, which, including other improvements, represent an outlay of \$383,000. The expenditures for the completion of business blocks under way at the commencement of the year was \$750,000. This swells the aggregate expenditures for building improvements made during 1889 to a grand total of \$8,609,662. In other words, Omaha has expended \$11,802,957.75 for public improvements, packing houses, factories, banking and business houses, school buildings, churches and dwellings, and erected 2,082 new buildings of every description during the year.

“Omaha's commercial growth is exhibited by its wholesale trade, bank clearings and industrial statistics. The capital of the Omaha banking houses aggregates \$5,100,000, and their deposits amount to \$18,343,734. The clearing house record pre-

sents a fair index of the volume of business transacted in Omaha, and affords conclusive proof of its commercial supremacy. The clearings of 1889 aggregate \$208,681,000, as against \$174,700,761 the preceding year.

“Omaha maintains its rank as the third largest pork market in America, and its beef packing industry has more than trebled within the last two years. The number of hogs packed during the past year was 931,478, the number of beeves slaughtered was 113,307, and the total of all kinds of stock killed and packed foots up 1,303,765, as against 1,078,785 in 1888.

“The manufacturers of Omaha have turned out products to the value of \$23,515,000, an increase of over two millions over the preceding year. This is exclusive of the products of the packing industries of South Omaha, which exceed \$13,000,000, and which will swell the grand total of Omaha's industrial products in round figures to over \$37,000,000.

“The wholesale trade of Omaha has materially increased in volume, and the jobbers have extended their territory considerably during the past year. The sales of the wholesale dealers, exclusive of products manufactured in Omaha, amount to \$44,910,000.”

The banking capital of the city amounts to \$6,000,000. There are fifty-two public school-houses, four colleges, three Catholic academies, nine parochial, and a number of other schools within the city. There are also ninety-four church organizations divided among various denominations. The city is a metropolis of the great Northwest.

Plattsmouth, the county seat of Cass County, is situated on the west bank of the Missouri River, a short distance below the mouth of the Platte River. In 1819, Long's exploring expedition, with the “Western Engineer,” the first steamer on the Missouri, was sent by the government to explore the great river and the regions between it and the Rocky Mountains, leaving St. Louis, Mo., in July, reaching the mouth of the Platte September 17.

The traders and trappers presumably crossed the Platte at various times during the twenty years following, but the next visit to that section of which there is historic record is that of Fremont, in 1842,

his expedition camping for one night on the projecting bluff just below the present site of Plattsmouth, the place still retaining the name of Fremont's Point.

About the year of 1848, a Mormon by the name of Libeas T. Coon established a ferry—a flat-boat propelled by sweeps—across the Missouri, landing in the vicinity of this point, on the Nebraska side, for the convenience of the Saints, whose exodus to the far West was in full progress. In this manner a highway became established along the south bank of the Platte, but no settlements were made below that river and along the Missouri for some years, the territory being occupied by the Pawnees and Otoes, and the Indians protected in their rights by the Government, forts flanking the Missouri and no one being allowed to remain on Nebraska soil without a special permit from the Secretary of War.

The first permit of this kind as regards Cass County was obtained by Samuel Martin, who had been living on the east bank of the Missouri, to establish a trading post at or near the confluence of the two rivers. Accordingly, very early in the spring of 1853, he brought over on the ice the logs of his house in Iowa, and, with the assistance of James O'Neil and Col. J. L. Sharp, erected a substantial two-story building, afterward known as the "Old Barracks," for a trading house, and, shortly subsequent, a smaller one for a council house. The following year the Plattsmouth Town Company, consisting of Martin, O'Neil, Sharp and others, was organized, and by them the town was laid out. An act of the Legislature of the Territory, approved March 14, 1855, defined the boundaries of Cass County, made Plattsmouth the county seat thereof, and provided for its incorporation. The postoffice at Plattsmouth was established in the fall of this year. The first merchant was Samuel Martin, with his "trading post." The first school here was taught in 1856, by Miss Mary Stocking, and the first church, Baptist, was organized the same year; the next, Methodist, was organized the following year. The city is now well supplied with schools and churches, also with several newspapers, societies, extensive and substantial buildings, manufactories, etc. Its population in 1880 was 4,180; it is now probably double that amount or more. It is a

prosperous city and bids fair to maintain its prominence. It is twenty-one miles below Omaha and thirty miles north of Nebraska City. For transportation it has the advantages of the river and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Missouri River Railroads.

Among other young and ambitious cities of Nebraska, each of which numbers its inhabitants by the thousands, and strives to take front rank in the great march of progress, mention may be made of the following: Seward, the seat of justice of the county of the same name, is quite a railroad centre, having six lines of railway diverging from it. York, the county seat of York County, also has six lines of railway diverging from it, and so has Wahoo, the county seat of Saunders County. Ashland, Auburn, Aurora, Brownville, Central City, David City, Fairbury, Fairfield, Friend, Norfolk, North Bend, Pawnee City, Ponca, Red Cloud, Schuyler, Sidney, St. Paul, Sutton, Tecumseh, Tekamah, West Point, Wilber, Wymore, and some other places also deserve mention as prosperous little cities.

Nebraska may well be proud of her educational facilities. An act entitled "Common schools," passed by the Territorial Legislature, and approved January 26, 1855, was the origin of the public school system of the State. The first State report of the schools was made January 5, 1857, by the State auditor, *ex-officio* commissioner of education; but as the system was yet in its infancy, the report contains nothing worthy of note here. The next report was made by State Auditor W. E. Harvey in January, 1861, showing nineteen counties returned, in which there were eighty-four precincts and 139 sub-districts. There were 3,763 males and 3,272 females enumerated, making a total of 7,041 children of school age. These were attendant upon four high and 104 primary schools, of the public system, and twenty-three private institutions, giving a total of 131 schools of all classes. The high schools contained 376 pupils, of whom 227 were males; the primary schools held an enrollment of 2,554, of whom 1,377 were males. This showed an enrollment of 2,930 out of an enumeration of 7,041. There were two male and two female teachers in the high schools, and thirty-six males and seven-

ty-four females in the primaries, besides eight males and seventeen females in the select schools, or 139 teachers all told. The school-houses numbered thirty-four, with a total value of all property of \$9,748. The aggregate of wages paid was \$4,772, and the aggregate of expenditures reached \$8,214.

Under the act of January 13, 1860, an apportionment was made and an enumeration taken of "the unmarried white youth" of the Territory. The result of this for the year 1860, and the apportionment of money for the year of 1861, were:

COUNTIES.	NO. ENROLLED	AMOUNT.
Burt.....	115.....	\$153 68
Calhoun.....	17.....	
Cass.....	1,106.....	1,000 00
Cedar.....	78.....	38 10
Clay.....	74.....	
Cuming.....	26.....	
Dakota.....	300.....	156 30
Dixon.....	77.....	30 43
Dodge.....	87.....	80 64
Douglas.....	889.....	1,000 00
Gage.....	120.....	47 12
Johnson.....	124.....	61 43
Nebraska.....	917.....	700 00
Otoe.....	1,222.....	1,491 35
Pawnee.....	249.....	106 65
Richardson.....	629.....	500 00
Sarpy.....	393.....	500 00
Washington.....	452.....	431 38
Platte.....	153.....	55 25
Total.....	7,041.....	\$6,352 23

The enabling act of Congress, approved April 19, 1864, under which Nebraska afterwards became a State, provided that Sections 16 and 36 in every Congressional township should be donated to the State for the support of common schools, and that if any portion or portions of these sections had previously been conveyed, other lands equivalent thereto should be donated in their stead. It further provided that seventy-two other sections of land should be set apart and reserved for the use and support of a State University, to be appropriated and applied as the Legislature of the State might prescribe for the purpose. It also provided that five per centum of the proceeds of the sales of all public lands lying within the State, which had been or should be sold by the United States prior or subsequent to the admission of the State into the Union, after deducting all expenses incident to the same, should be paid to the State for the support of the common schools. These were the provisions of the

general government made for the education of the people of the State, and were far more liberal than the donations made for the same purpose to Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and other States, to which Section 16 only, in each township, was donated.

The sources from whence come the perpetual funds for common school purposes, of which the annual interest or income only can be appropriated, are: 1. Such per centum as has been or may be granted by Congress on the sale of lands within the State. 2. Moneys arising from the sale or leasing of Sections 16 and 36 in each township. 3. The proceeds of all lands granted to the State, not otherwise appropriated by the terms of the grant. 4. The net proceeds of escheats, forfeitures, or from unclaimed dividends or distributive shares of the estates of deceased persons. 5. All moneys, stocks, bonds, lands and other property already belonging to the common school fund. 6. All the rents on unsold school lands, and the interest on deferred payments on school lands sold. All fines, penalties and license moneys arising under the general laws of the State, shall belong to the counties where the same is levied. All such moneys arising under the ordinances of cities, villages or towns, shall belong to the same respectively.

All of these funds are *principals* of a perpetual fund which can never legally be diminished, but which will continue to increase. That arising from the sale of lands will increase until the last acre shall have been sold, and the last dollar of the proceeds belonging to the fund paid into the treasury; then it will become a fixed and permanent amount, to be diminished only by insufficient securities. That arising from escheats, forfeitures, fines, penalties, etc., will continue to increase as long as men continue to die and leave estates, or forfeit bonds, or commit crimes.

The amount of the perpetual school fund derived from the foregoing sources, and belonging to the State, November 30, 1888, as shown by the last published report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, was \$5,947,724.30, being an increase over the amount belonging to the State two years prior thereto of \$1,043,605.09. The increase from 1884 to 1886 was \$92,602.40. Thus it is seen that

this fund is rapidly increasing. There are about two and one-half millions of acres of the common school lands in the State yet unsold. From the sale of these lands, all of which will eventually be sold, and from the other sources of income, the perpetual fund is destined to reach an enormous sum, perhaps larger than that of the school fund of any other State in the Union. The interest of the perpetual school funds, and the rents and profits of the unsold school lands, are collected annually and appropriated to the support of the common schools.

The school law of the State provides for the free instruction in the common schools of all persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years, and that no sectarian instruction shall be allowed in any school or institution supported wholly, or partially, by the public funds set apart for educational purposes. Every organized county is divided into school districts, and each corporate city of 1,500 or more inhabitants constitutes one school district. Unless otherwise specified, twenty days constitutes a school month, and the minimum length of the school year is three months. In all schools under State control, instruction must be given, in addition to the other branches taught, in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks and other stimulants and narcotics upon the human system. For the support of the free schools, in addition to the income from the permanent school fund, an annual tax is levied, not to exceed one and one-half mills upon the dollar valuation of all the taxable property of the State. The income thus derived is apportioned semi-annually by the State superintendent to the several counties in the State, in proportion to the last enumeration of school children.

The law also provides that the voters of any school district may annually level a local tax for school purposes, not exceeding 25 mills on the dollar, 10 mills of which may be used for the building, purchase, or lease of school houses. For the benefit of persons desiring to teach in the common schools, a State Normal School, and State and county normal institutes, are maintained. The law also provides for a county superintendent of schools and district school boards. The State Normal School and State University, both of which belong

to the common school system, are treated of elsewhere in this work under the head of State Institutions.

To show the condition of the schools, and the workings of Nebraska's educational system since the State was organized, the following statistical facts are inserted, giving the figures for 1870, 1880 and 1888, the latter date being the last for which an official report has been published. It will be interesting also to compare the figures for 1870, with those giving the condition of the schools in 1861, as stated on a former page:

Number of counties organized in 1870, 31; in 1880, 64; in 1888, 80. Number of school districts in 1870, 797; in 1880, 3,132; in 1888, 5,664. Number of school houses in 1870, 298; in 1880, 2,701; in 1888, 5,187. Children of school age in 1870, 32,789; in 1880, 142,348; in 1888, 298,006. Average number in each district in 1870, 41; in 1880, 44; in 1888, 52. Number of children attending school in 1870, 12,791; in 1880, 92,549; in 1888, 215,889. Per cent of attendance in 1870, 39; in 1880, 65; in 1888, 73. Number of male teachers in 1870, 267; in 1880, 1,670; in 1888, 2,752. Number of female teachers in 1870, 269; in 1880, 2,430; in 1888, 7,134. Number of graded schools in 1870, —; in 1880, 70; in 1888, 343. Total wages paid male teachers in 1870, \$26,650; in 1880, \$242,334; in 1888, \$557,113.87. Total wages paid female teachers in 1870, \$31,088; in 1880, \$306,805; in 1888, \$1,142,670.74. Average wages per month, males, in 1870, \$28.10; in 1880, \$36.12. Average wages per month, females, in 1870, \$33.72; in 1880, \$31.92. Value of all school property in 1870, \$178,604.34; in 1880, \$2,064,768; in 1888, \$5,123,179.81. Total receipts in 1870, \$167,597.95; in 1880, \$1,294,137; in 1888, \$3,550,488.78. Total expenditures in 1870, \$163,931.84; in 1880, \$1,249,793; in 1888, \$3,238,241.89. Total indebtedness in 1870, \$31,657.09; in 1880, \$1,008,799; in 1888, \$2,069,598.92.

These facts, in addition to the information pertaining to the common schools, serve to show how the State has developed; how the counties, school districts and school children have increased. A notable feature is the increase in the per cent of

school children that attended the free schools, it being seventy-three in the year 1888, which is higher than that found in several of the older States. Another interesting feature is that showing the increase of female over male teachers employed. The table is especially valuable to persons interested in educational matters. It shows the gigantic achievements of the young and enterprising State in regard to education.

The statutes of Nebraska designate the twenty-second day of April as Arbor Day. This day was originated in Nebraska in 1872, and since that date there has been planted within the State, as shown by statistics, the enormous number of 355,560,000 forest, shade and fruit trees. In no part of the country is it of more importance than in this prairie State to plant trees. By inducing the children to observe Arbor Day, they can be taught to observe and study the growth and habits of trees. Many of our native American trees, in twenty years after being transplanted, will attain a diameter of twenty inches. In consequence of the observance of Arbor Day, many a citizen of the State, when he shall have grown old, will point with satisfactory pride to the majestic tree that his hands set out when he was a school boy.

Brownell Hall was begun as a school for girls by the Rt. Rev. Joseph Talbot, missionary bishop of the Northwest, in 1865, at a place called Saratoga, a couple of miles north of the city of Omaha. In the year 1868 it was moved into the city to a site on the corner of Sixteenth and Jones Streets, and incorporated as a seminary by the Rt. Rev. Robert H. Clarkson, bishop of Nebraska, and others under the title of the Board of Trustees of Brownell Hall. It was named in honor of Bishop Brownell, who was then the bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Bishop Clarkson was rector of the school from 1868 until 1876, when the present rector, Rt. Rev. Robert Doherty, S. J. D., was elected. The first site chosen in the city was contracted and unsuitable, consisting of only one hundred feet frontage, and on a hillside so steep as to be of unsafe approach by carriage. The building was of wood, old and dilapidated, and the whole value of the property was less than the debt.

The present buildings were erected in the year 1886, on a site donated by Mr. Herman Kountze, mainly by contributions from citizens of Omaha. Their cost thus far, including furniture—the south wing yet unfinished—is about \$100,000. The chapel, St. Matthias Church, was completed this year, 1890, at an additional cost of \$41,000. The buildings are of stone, brick and iron; the inside of wood polished. The site is a beautiful eminence on Tenth Street, overlooking the whole city and commanding a view of the river and wooded terraces of Iowa and Nebraska for several miles. The faculty is large and able, and the course of instruction is thorough. The school is prosperous in numerical attendance, is out of debt, and is paying its running expenses. It maintains a reputation generally for doing good, thorough, honest educational work.

The Bellevue College, at Bellevue, Neb., nine miles south of Omaha, on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, has a location of historic interest, of delightful view, and of commanding advantage. It is controlled by the Presbyterian Synod of Nebraska, with its property rights vested in an incorporated board of trustees. It was established by the generosity of the Hon. H. J. Clarke, now of Omaha. His gifts were 264 acres of land, the elegant three-story brick college building, Clarke Hall, and large donations to the salaries of the professors and other necessities during the first year of the institution. The college opened with fourteen students on September 10, 1883; it has now a large attendance, and its outlook for the future brightens more and more.

Creighton College.—It was the dying request of Edward Creighton, one of Omaha's early settlers, that his wife, the late Mrs. Mary Creighton, should endow a free college in Omaha for the education of youth without regard to creed or color. His wish was complied with, and Creighton College was the result. It was erected in 1877, and was incorporated by an act of the Legislature February 27, 1879, with power to "confer such degrees as are usually conferred by colleges and universities in the United States," and in the same year it was entrusted, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop James O'Connor, D. D., to the fathers of the Society of Jesus, by

whom it is conducted. In religious training the Catholic religion alone is taught; but non-Catholic students are welcome, and their religious opinions are studiously respected. No students are admitted under twelve years of age, and none for a less term than ten months. The tuition is entirely free. The attendance for the last year was 195, an increase of twenty over the previous year. The college campus is extensive. The library contains 6,500 volumes. The scientific laboratory is the most complete in the West.

The college building is large and commodious. Its left wing was erected in 1889, at a cost of about \$25,000, largely owing to Mr. John A. Creighton, brother of the founder. In connection with the college, as its chapel, is St. John's Collegiate Church, a beautiful stone building, not fully completed at this writing. The college faculty consists of eleven professors and instructors, with Rev. Thomas S. Fitzgerald, S. J., as president. The course of study is complete and the instruction exhaustive.

Doane College, located at Crete, in Saline County, was established by the Congregational Churches of Nebraska in June, 1872, and is therefore the oldest existing college in the State. "Its growth has been steady and healthful. From a dozen students and one teacher the first year, it has advanced to an annual attendance of 200 students and a corps of ten teachers. There are two full college courses, classical and scientific, each of four years. The preparatory course is for three years. There is a normal department for those wishing to prepare themselves for the teacher's profession." A conservatory of music is connected with the college. Boswell observatory, built in 1883, is the central station of the Nebraska weather service. The college cabinet contains about fourteen hundred species of animals from all parts of the world; an herbarium of between two and three thousand species of plants, mostly from the United States and Europe, and good collections of minerals, rocks and fossils. There are also zoological and anatomical collections.

Fairfield College, located at Fairfield, in Clay County, was founded in 1884 as the result of an action of the State Missionary Society of the Chris-

tian Church, the object being to furnish opportunities to both sexes for higher education. The officers of the board of trustees were J. P. Nixon, president; Ira Titus, treasurer, and W. J. Newcomb, financial agent and secretary. The presidents of the institution have been C. W. Henry from 1884 to 1887, W. P. Aylsworth from 1887 to 1889, O. C. Hubble from 1889 to the present (1890). In 1889 the institution was re-incorporated as Fairfield College, the original name failing longer to indicate the scope of the work, while the management was placed in the hands of a board more local in its nature. The property of the institution consists of several hundred acres of fine land adjoining the city, much of which lies within the corporate limits.

In 1886 a fine brick structure was erected at a cost of upward of \$100,000. It stands on a commanding site east of the city in the College addition. The courses of study are the classical, philosophical, biblical, normal and business, with an excellent musical department under the management of Prof. E. R. Gaylord. The last catalogue shows an enrollment of 112 pupils, with eight professors and instructors. The high moral atmosphere of the city, the absence of saloons and other places of vice, and its favorable location at the junction of the St. Joseph & Grand Island and the Kansas City & Omaha Railroads, all conspire to a suitable place for such an institution.

The Hastings College was founded in 1879, under the care and control of the Kearney Presbytery, Hastings being then in that district. The citizens of Hastings contributed \$50,000 in money and lands, to aid the enterprise. J. H. Hanson donated the twenty acres known as the College Campus, and the citizens purchased and donated seventy-five acres more. The whole amount, ninety-five acres, comprises the college addition to the city; thirty-five acres are reserved in the campus, and the balance is laid out into city lots. The first building—McCormick Hall—was built in 1883, at a cost of \$14,700, and named in honor of the late Cyrus H. McCormick, who made the first donation, \$5,000, to aid the college. The second building was erected in 1884, at a cost of about \$20,000, which was subscribed by the citizens of Hastings, Mr. James B.

Hartwell alone contributing \$11,000. The site of the college is in the eastern part of the city. Thousands of trees have been set out on the grounds, and the buildings and the campus constitute a scene of beauty. The college is open to both sexes, has a large patronage, and is well sustained. The faculty is able and thorough work is being done. Board and rooms are furnished in the institution. There is no better location for a college than Hastings.

The Nebraska Wesleyan University was founded by the Methodists of the State, under a plan of unification, by which it is the only university possible to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Nebraska. All schools or colleges which are now or may hereafter become the property of the church are incorporated as departments of the university, and none are permitted to teach beyond the sophomore year of the university courses. This institution of learning is situated in University Place, originally platted as a suburb of the city of Lincoln, and which has been incorporated as a village, thus avoiding encroachments of saloons and limiting local taxation. It is about three miles from, and overlooks the capital city. Street cars and telephone lines connect it with all parts of the city. The property of the

university consists of the campus, a beautiful plateau containing forty-four acres. The building, 168x72 feet in size, and four stories in height, costing \$75,000, is one of the most substantial and beautiful structures in the West; 500 lots adjacent are estimated worth \$150,000. An endowment fund has been secured. The first year of school in the university began September 11, 1889, and the first commencement will be held June 25, 1890. Being supported by all the Methodists of the State, its future great success is assured.

The institutions mentioned are the leading denominational colleges of the State. The University of Nebraska, the State Normal School and the State Industrial School, are mentioned in this work with the State Institutions. There are many other colleges of less note throughout the State, among which may be mentioned Gates College, at Neligh, on the main line of the Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, a Congregational School, first opened in September, 1882; the Sisters of Visitation Academy at Hastings, founded in 1889, and others. There are also good commercial colleges and schools of music at Omaha, Lincoln and other leading cities of the State.



CHAPTER XI.

STATE INSTITUTIONS—ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY OF BUILDINGS—CONVENIENCE OF CONSTRUCTION—THE CAPITOL
EDIFICE—HISTORY OF ERECTION—APPROPRIATIONS—UNIVERSITY—BLIND INSTITUTE—NORMAL SCHOOL—
INSANE ASYLUMS—DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTIONS—STATE PENITENTIARY—NEBRASKA AN AGRICUL-
TURAL STATE—PRODUCTIONS—VALUATION—CLIMATIC FEATURES—MANUFACTURING INTER-
ESTS—OFFICIAL DIRECTORY—ABSTRACT OF VOTES—ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Heaven forming each on other to depend,
Bids each on other for assistance call.—*Pope.*

NOTWITHSTANDING Nebraska is one of the youngest States of the Union, it is justly entitled to the pride it shows in its State institutions. Its State House has but few equals in the country, its asylums for those unfortunate wards of the State, the insane, the blind, the deaf and dumb, and the feeble-minded, are models in their way, its penal institutions well constructed and managed, and lastly its magnificent State University towers above all similar institutions in the West, as the crowning achievement of nearly a quarter of a century of Statehood. It is eminently proper that a few pages of this work be devoted to a history of these institutions. All of them have a history intimately associated with the history of the State, and doubtless, if their walls of stone could be made to speak, the store of material for a State history would be measurably increased.

Nebraska's first State House was not an imposing structure, and yet when it was finished it was regarded by the pioneer settlers of the new Territory as a marvel of architectural grandeur. It was

erected in the city of Omaha, on Ninth Street, between Farnham and Douglass Streets, by the Nebraska Ferry Company, and by that organization leased to the Territorial officers. It was a two-story brick structure and cost about \$3,000. In this humble edifice assembled the first Territorial Legislature. Later, Congress appropriated \$30,000 for the erection of a capitol building, to which sum the citizens of Omaha added \$60,000. The new edifice was much more in keeping with the dignity and growing importance of the Territory. But even this more imposing and modern structure was soon to be outgrown. Nebraska was admitted into the Union of States on March 1, 1867, and the Legislature at a special session soon after that date decided to move the State capital from Omaha to some point in the interior of the State. A commission was appointed, consisting of Gov. Butler, Secretary of State Kennard and State Auditor Gillespie, to select a site for the new capital city. Lincoln was selected and the work of building a State House at once commenced. The first contract for the State House was let to Joseph Ward, of Chicago, on January 11, 1868, for the sum of \$49,000. The building was constructed from magnesian limestone obtained from extensive quarries in Gage County. It was finished in December of the same year. On the third of that month Gov. Butler ordered the archives of State

transferred from Omaha to the new building. This was the original State capitol. It stood upon the site now occupied by the present edifice, but not a stone is left of the old building. It served its purpose for ten years, at the end of which time work was commenced upon the present structure.

There were a number of causes which contributed to the sentiment in favor of a new capitol. Chief among these was the very evident unfitness of the building for the permanent home of the offices of the State. The walls were badly constructed, and soon gave signs of disintegration. The outer courses of stone were effected by the weather, and began flaking off. The State officers soon began to be afraid to stay in the building during high winds, and each succeeding Legislature met under the shaky roof with an increased trepidation. Then the advocates of removing the capitol commenced an agitation which struck terror and dismay to the hearts of the citizens of Lincoln. That city, at that time, depended almost entirely upon the capitol for its future, and the agitation for removal had a depressing effect upon values and the growth of the place. In October, 1878, the north wall of the building was condemned. The board of public lands and buildings had it rebuilt, and in January, 1879, Gov. Garber, in his message to the Legislature, recommended that a new State House be erected, and suggested that a levy be made for a capitol building fund. After a bitter struggle, \$100,000 was appropriated for the erection of the west wing of the new capitol. Work was commenced upon the new building as soon as possible, but it was not until November, 1881, that the wing was ready for occupancy. It was built by W. H. B. Stout, of Lincoln, who undertook the contract for the sum of \$63,400. In 1881 the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for the erection of the east wing. The contract for the erection of this wing was let to W. H. B. Stout for the sum of \$96,800. In February, 1883, the Legislature provided for the demolition of the old building, and the erection of the main or central part of the present capitol, and on July 9, of the same year, the contract was let to W. H. B. Stout for \$439,187.25. The foundation walls were laid in the fall of 1883, and on July 15, 1884, the corner-

stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. From that date the work progressed rapidly, and by January 1, 1889, had been completed.

The capitol is a credit to the State. The following description of the noble building, written by a visitor on the day it was formally turned over to the State, will give the reader a clear idea of the edifice:

The style is the Italian renaissance. There is no superfluous ornamentation, either on exterior or interior. Quiet elegance and dignity are the characteristics of the design. The main elevations of the structure face the north and the south. The fronts are uniform in appearance. The main building, without the wings, is 85 feet in width and 168 feet in depth, exclusive of the two porticoes, which are each 12 feet wide. The wings are 85 feet wide and 114 feet long. The structure would be cruciform if the main building had been extended about 50 feet farther north and south. The extreme length east and west is 313 feet, and the breadth is 192 feet. The basement is 10 feet in height, the first story 14 feet, the second 15 feet, and the third 14 feet. The dome is 45 feet square at the base, and the lantern is 200 feet from the grade line.

The west wing for the past nine years has housed the treasurer, the State auditor, the commissioner of public lands and buildings, and the secretary of State on the first floor. All have had large and well furnished suites of rooms, with all the conveniences usually found around buildings of this class. At the west end of the second floor is the Senate chamber, 85 feet long, 55 feet wide, and with a ceiling 40 feet above the floor. The chamber is handsomely carpeted, and the walls are decorated with incrusta walton and heavy papers. On the second floor near the entrance to the Senate chamber, the governor and attorney-general have had their offices. On the third floor are the offices of the adjutant-general and the board of live stock agents. The east wing has been the temporary home of the State library and the supreme court. The superintendent of public instruction also has a pleasant suite of offices on the second floor. The second and third floors are taken up mostly with representative hall and cloak and committee rooms. The board of transportation has

been sheltered here since its organization, and the State oil inspector has occupied the room of the speaker and chief clerk of the house, pending the completion of the main building.

The new portion of the capitol will be occupied immediately. This is the main building, and is nearly as large as both of the wings combined. The visitor may enter from Fifteenth Street, either from the north or the south. Passing between the massive piers of the portico he enters a vestibule tiled and wainscoted in marble. From that open apartment he steps into the main corridor, running north and south through this part of the building, and intersecting in the rotunda the long corridor running the extreme length of the building from east to west. These corridors are tiled with Vermont marble and partially wainscoted in scagliola, or artificial marble. The heavy doors and frames are of oak. In each of the four corners of this floor is a suite of offices. The commissioner of public lands and buildings will have the northwest corner, the secretary of State the southeast, and the board of transportation the southwest. The offices are large, well ventilated, furnished with fire places and equipped with the latest plumbing conveniences. There are immense fireproof vaults for storing State papers, both in the basement and on the first floor.

The rotunda is octagonal, with an inside dimension of about thirty feet. An opening in the second floor admits light to the first story, and gives a view of the upper portion. A section of the first floor is of heavy glass, admitting light to the basement also.

A better view of the upper rotunda may be had from the second story. We will therefore climb one of the iron stairways. The second corridor will be found to be floored in hard wood instead of marble, but there is an abundance of the scagliola here, and it has a beautiful effect. It is particularly striking around the interior of the rotunda. From the second floor upward the whole interior of the dome is open. When the frescoing is completed, the clusters of incandescent lamps are in place, and a plate glass polish has been given the marble, this rotunda will indeed be a beautiful sight.

The south half of the second floor is to be occupied by the State library. The main room lies

across the front, and extends up through the third floor. The size of the room is 83x31 feet. A wide gallery around the whole apartment gives a large amount of additional shelf space. The library rooms are finished in hard wood and are very conveniently arranged.

The north half of this floor contains the finest suite of rooms in the entire building. There are five of the apartments, and they are to be occupied by the executive department. In the middle of the front is the main reception room. It is 30x36 feet in size. On each side are two apartments used as private rooms and the offices of the private secretary and executive clerks. The finishings and furnishings when complete will be worthy of the office of the governor of the great State of Nebraska.

The third floor is not finished in hard woods, but this fact will not be detected by the casual visitor. The north half is devoted to the uses of the supreme court, five rooms being set apart for the judiciary department. The south half is taken up by the upper portion of the library and two committee rooms.

If the visitor wishes to continue his investigation still further, he may climb a succession of stairs and a long spiral stairway, and at last stand out at the top of the dome, 200 feet above the ground, and overlooking the entire city and country for ten or fifteen miles in every direction. On a pleasant day visitors often remain there for hours enjoying the scene. There is nothing striking in the landscape that is unfolded, but it is always a pleasure to be able to get a bird's eye view of the busy city, and to mark the great advances it is making upon the surrounding country. In the summer season especially there is a great amount of tranquil beauty in that broad circle of green whose outer edge forms the horizon.

Next to the State capitol the State University is the most notable State institution of Nebraska. The men who drafted Nebraska's enabling act displayed admirable wisdom and forethought in directing that a large portion of the public lands within the new State be set apart for the erection and maintenance of a State University. By leasing and selling these public lands Nebraska secured an endowment for its principal educational institution that at once

placed it upon a solid financial foundation. On February 15, 1869, the Legislature passed an act establishing the University and creating a board of regents, in whom was vested the management of the institution. The act further ordered the sale of all lots in the city of Lincoln belonging to the State, and directed that the proceeds be devoted to the erection of a university building. In accordance with this act the commission, consisting of the governor, secretary of State and auditor, accepted the plans and specifications prepared by M. J. McBird, of Logansport, Ind., and awarded the contract for the building to D. J. Silver & Son, also of Logansport. The contractors commenced work upon the proposed structure in July, 1869, and pushed it rapidly toward completion in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles. It must be remembered that at that time Nebraska was untraversed by railroads, and Lincoln was a new town sixty-five miles from the Missouri River. The lumber had to be ferried across the Missouri from Iowa, and transported to Lincoln by wagon over poorly constructed prairie roads. The brick for the walls had to be manufactured, and the contractors were compelled to pay \$10 per cord for the wood used in burning them, and this wood had to be hauled thirty miles. Yet, in spite of these difficulties the work progressed with surprising rapidity. The excavation, foundation and basement story were completed in April, 1870, and the work of building the walls commenced in that month. The walls were completed, and the roof finished by the middle of August, 1870.

The board of regents at once began preparation for the formal opening of the University. The building was finished; but the more important work of selecting a chancellor and corps of instructors, preparing a course of study and enlisting the interest of prospective students, was yet to be accomplished. Through the influence of mutual personal friends the regents induced Dr. A. R. Benton, president of the Northwestern Christian University, of Indianapolis, Ind., to accept the chancellorship. Dr. Benton paid his first visit to Nebraska in 1871, and made a most favorable impression upon the board of regents. At a meeting of the board of regents in that month it was decided to formally in-

augurate the work of the University on September 7, 1871. Chancellor Benton removed to Nebraska in May of that year, and at once began his work. Under his direction courses of study were prepared and the rooms in the University building arranged and furnished. The chancellor also visited the different cities and towns in the State, delivering lectures in the interests of the new institution, and securing the attendance of pupils.

In 1871, it must be remembered, Nebraska contained a population of barely 100,000. These people were for the most part people of small means. The school system of the State was in its infancy, and but few pupils were prepared to enter even the lowest classes of the University. Yet, in spite of the discouraging outlook, Chancellor Benton and his associates on the original faculty set about their work with a zeal and confidence that augured well for the success of the new institution. The doors of the University were formally thrown open for the reception of students on the morning of September 7, 1871. The following named gentlemen composed the original faculty: Prof. A. R. Benton, chancellor and professor of mental, moral and political philosophy; O. C. Dake, professor of English literature; S. H. Manley, professor of Greek language and literature; G. E. Church, professor of Latin language and literature; Samuel Aughey, professor of natural sciences. Seventy students appeared on the opening day.

By an act of the Legislature approved February 15, 1869, and an act amendatory thereto, approved February 19, 1877, the regents are authorized to establish five departments or colleges as follows: (1) A college of literature, science and art. (2) An industrial college, embracing agriculture, practical science, civil engineering, and the mechanic arts. (3) A college of law. (4) A college of medicine. (5) A college of fine arts.

Of the first department organized, that of literature, science and art, there are four courses of study, of four years each, namely: A classical, a scientific, a Latin scientific and a Greek scientific. In the department of agriculture, there are two courses, one of three years and a course of one year, therefore the following degrees are granted, namely:

(1) The degree of Bachelor of Arts is conferred on students who complete the classical course. (2) That of Bachelor of Science, on students who complete the regular scientific course. (3) That of Bachelor of Philosophy, on students who complete the Latin scientific course. (4) That of Bachelor of Letters, on students who complete the literary course. (5) The degree of Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of Philosophy, or Master of Letters, is conferred respectively on Bachelor of Arts, Science, Philosophy or Letters, who shall have pursued a post-graduate course of study for one year, under the direction of the faculty, or upon graduates of three years' standing, who shall have been engaged during that time in literary, scientific or professional studies.

In November, 1873, Samuel Bacon, who had served as superintendent of the Institution for the Blind, in the State of Iowa, arrived in Nebraska City, and immediately broached the project of the establishment of a school for the education of the blind. The proposition was favorably received, and in the autumn of 1874 he became a resident of Nebraska City. At a public meeting a committee was chosen to wait on the Legislature and ask for the appropriation. The committee consisted of George Sroat, H. K. Raymond, Dr. John Blue, Rev. J. H. McNamara, William Bischof, Dr. Bowen and Samuel Bacon.

Their mission was successful, and on the 19th day of February, 1875, the act was passed. The first section of this act read as follows: "That there shall be maintained at Nebraska City, county of Otoe, an institution for the blind, and there is hereby appropriated for that purpose the sum of \$10,000, for the erection of a building and furnishing of the same; *provided*, that the citizens of Nebraska City shall raise the sum of \$3,000, and when the said sum is raised and paid over to the board of trustees, either in money or in property, to the satisfaction of such board, then the board of trustees of said institution for the blind shall proceed to locate said institution on not less than ten acres of land, and not to exceed one mile in distance from the court house of said Nebraska City." The succeeding sections, to the seventeenth, provide for the

mode of governing the institution by the board of trustees, composed of the governor, secretary of State, attorney general, State treasurer and commissioner of public lands and buildings, and section seventeen provides that "All blind persons residents of this State, of suitable age and capacity, shall be entitled to an education in this institution at the expense of the State. Each county superintendent of common schools shall report to the Institution for the Blind on the first days of April each year, the name, age, residence, and postoffice address of every blind person, and every person blind to such an extent as to be unable to acquire an education in the common schools, and who reside in the county where he is superintendent."

For \$2,400 a ten-acre tract lying about three-fourths of a mile north of the city was purchased, and preparations for the construction of a suitable edifice were begun. In the meantime temporary rooms were rented, and the institution formally opened on March 10, 1875, with three pupils. The new building was completed as rapidly as possible, and on January 13, 1876, was formally occupied by the school. The main building, a substantial brick, is three stories and basement, 49x65 feet, and contains thirty large rooms. In 1877 a two-story brick work-shop was added at a cost of \$3,000.

The spot occupied by the institution is one of the most beautiful in the West. The government of the school is paternal, and the law of kindness the governing principle. Corporal punishment is unknown in the institution. A regular course of study is marked out, running from eight to ten years. The course includes geometry, physiology, ancient and modern philosophy, astronomy, natural history and natural philosophy. Two of the most interesting departments of the institution are the musical and industrial. In the matter of securing self support, experience proves that the musical branches are the most efficient, while they also contribute to relieve the monotony which falls to the lot of those unfortunates.

In the industrial departments the boys and young men are required to spend a certain number of hours at the occupation of cane-seating and broom-making. The girls are instructed in hand and ma-

chine sewing, knitting, crocheting, bead and fancy work. The reports show that both shop and fancy work departments are sources of profit, after paying all expenses for stock.

The Normal School is located adjoining the town of Peru. In 1863 John M. McKenzie, a practical educator, settled in Peru, and with the assistance of zealous friends of education, measures were started for the organization of Mount Vernon College, a school under the auspices of the Methodist' denomination. Soon the building, now used as dormitory, three stories high and 40x80 feet in size, was erected at a cost of \$10,000. John M. McKenzie was chosen first principal of the new college. In the early spring of 1866 the new building was occupied, although it was unfinished, and school continued until June. Messrs. William Daily and T. J. Majors, members of the State Council and House of Representatives for Nemaha County, in the winter of 1866-67 tendered the property, valued at \$10,000, to the State for a Normal School. The proposition was promptly accepted, and the Legislature appropriated the sum of \$3,000 to finish the building, and also gave an endowment of twenty sections of saline land lying in Lancaster County.

The act to locate, establish and endow a State Normal School was passed June 21, 1867. Section 1 provides that the school shall be established at Peru, in Nemaha County, "the exclusive purpose of which shall be the instruction of persons, both male and female, in the art of teaching and in all the various branches that pertain to a good common school education; also to give instruction in the mechanical arts, and in the arts of husbandry and agricultural chemistry; in the fundamental laws of the United States, and what regards the rights and duties of citizens."

Prior to the location and building of the Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln, this class of unfortunates were sent to the Iowa Asylum. The bill locating and appropriating funds for the hospital building was passed by the Legislature in 1868. In 1869 the contract was let to Joseph Ward, of Lincoln, for \$137,000, and on November 29, 1870, was formally accepted by the State. It was opened on December 22, 1870, with Dr. Lane as superinten-

dent. In April, 1871, five months after the institution had been opened for the reception of patients, it burned to the ground. After the conflagration three patients were missing, and it has always been supposed that they lost their lives. A special session of the Legislature convened in June, 1871, and made an appropriation for a new building. The buildings as they stand at present cost \$165,000. They are built of light gray sandstone, the ground dimensions being 54x328 feet, and the main building four stories in height. In addition to the hospital at Lincoln, a second hospital has been established by the State at Norfolk, while the Asylum for the Incurable Insane is located at Hastings.

The Twelfth Territorial Legislature, by an act approved February 7, 1867, provided in due form for the establishment of an institute for the deaf and dumb, to be located in Omaha; all of the class specified of a suitable age and capacity, to receive instruction, to be admitted into and enjoy the benefits of said institution without charge. The act further constituted a board of directors a body politic and corporate with perpetual existence, consisting of Aurelius Bowen, Able L. Childs, E. H. Rogers, John S. Bowen, Gilbert C. Monell and John McPherson.

A building was rented in Omaha, and the school opened April 1, 1869, with W. M. French, principal, and Mrs. Jennie Wilson, matron. Twelve pupils were enrolled during the first eight months of the school's existence, and the amount expended for the same time was \$2,179.03.

The Thirteenth General Assembly, foreseeing that more suitable and commodious accommodations would have to be provided, made an appropriation of \$15,000 for building purposes. Grounds located about three miles northwest of the city were donated by the city of Omaha, and a fine brick edifice erected in a suitable form to receive additions as they might be needed. The new building was occupied for the first time in January, 1872. Four teachers were employed during the second year and twenty-nine pupils were enrolled.

In 1873 a printing office was established in connection with the institution, for the instruction of pupils desirous of learning that trade. Mr. S. F.

Buckley, one of these pupils, shortly after assumed the position of foreman.

In 1879 a brick work-shop was erected at a cost of \$3,000, carpenter work being introduced under charge of F. E. Maynard. Both the printing office and carpenter shops are self supporting, beyond the salaries of their foremen. The shops are supplied with suitable machinery for the various kinds of work. In 1874 a semi-monthly paper, entitled the Nebraska Mute Journal, was established. The mechanical work of this paper is done entirely by the pupils.

A new building, similar in many respects to the first, was erected in 1876 at a cost of \$15,000. In 1879 the brick work-shop, above mentioned, was built, and in 1881 a third building was erected, connecting the two built in 1871 and 1876, the combination being in perfect harmony, and constituting one of the finest public buildings in the State. The cost of this improvement was \$16,000. In addition to this \$4,000 was expended in heating apparatus, whereby the entire institution is warmed by steam; \$1,000 for gas apparatus, \$1,000 for engine and machinery for the shops, \$500 for hose for use in case of fire, and \$500 for telephonic communication with the city of Omaha. The institution is under the charge of the board of public lands and buildings, and directly under the control of a corps of competent instructors. The boys are learning good trades and the girls are taught general housework, plain sewing and dressmaking. The same general methods of instructing the deaf which are practiced in similar first-class institutions, are in use in this one, articulation being made a specialty with good success. A regular course of instruction is followed, in which it is aimed to prepare the pupil for active life and self support, the institution being in no sense an asylum, but in every sense a school.

The act providing for the building of the State penitentiary on the site south of Lincoln, donated for that purpose by W. T. Donovan and Mr. Hilton, was passed by the Legislature on March 4, 1870. The national government had set apart 34,000 acres of land for prison purposes. Three commissioners were appointed to dispose of these lands. In the meantime the Legislature appropriated \$5,000 for

the erection of a temporary prison. In the same year plans and specifications offered by William H. Foster, of Des Moines, Iowa, were adopted, and the contract let to W. H. B. Stout and J. M. Jamison for \$312,000. The quarries of Saltello, located about twelve miles south of Lincoln, furnished the material for the walls, a hard, magnesian limestone. The external appearance of the building is very imposing, at once suggesting to the observer the use for which it is intended. It is a most substantial structure, well heated and ventilated, considered perfectly secure, and has a capacity for 800 prisoners. The cells are in rows of forty each, and by means of a lever at one end the keeper is enabled to lock at once the whole row. This greatly diminishes the chances for escape, and the danger to the keeper of being attacked while on the round locking each door. A wall twenty-five feet in height, surmounted at intervals by watch towers, encloses nearly three acres at the rear of the building. Within the enclosure are the work-shops of the institution. The discipline of the prison is good. It is lenient, yet severe enough to produce good order, and not so severe as to cause dissatisfaction and breed revolt. But once in the history of the institution has a serious revolt taken place. On the afternoon of January 11, 1875, seven convicts under the leadership of a convict named McWaters, overpowered the guards in the work-shop. Deputy Warden Noahs entered the shops at this moment. He was also overpowered, bound and stripped. McWaters, who had the audacity to attempt anything that might lead to escape, donned the deputy's clothes and marched his convicts past the door guards into the building where more guards were overpowered, and the armory broken into. It was the plan to secure guns and ammunition, dress themselves in citizens clothing, kill the guards and effect their escape. Their plans might have succeeded had not the fortunate escape of Deputy Warden Noahs given the alarm. The mutinous convicts soon found themselves besieged in the main building. So completely were they hemmed in that every attempt to leave the building proved ineffectual. A detachment of United States troops arrived early the next morning, and the appearance of the soldiers caused them to

weaken. They surrendered during the forenoon. The story of the revolt would be incomplete without at least a brief reference to the heroism displayed upon the occasion by Mrs. Woodhurst, wife of the warden. Her husband was absent when the mutiny occurred, and his wife was almost alone in the main building. As soon as she discovered the revolt she rushed to a window and alarmed the guards in spite of the threats of the convicts. She defied them to harm her, and fearlessly placed herself before their guns when they were about to fire at citizens who had come from Lincoln to quell the mutiny. During the night she succeeded in getting possession of their guns and hiding them. When the hopelessness of their attempt to escape finally dawned upon the minds of the mutineers, they surrendered to her, and were turned over to the officers.

McWaters and the seven convicts made a second attempt to escape on May 26, 1875. The attempt was a failure, McWaters being shot dead by the guard at the outset of the demonstration.

The management of the penitentiary is necessarily strict, but not more so than necessity demands. Among the theories entertained for the amelioration of the condition of the inmates of the institution, is the introduction of a well-devised system of education. The maintenance of a well-selected library, and the employment of instructors, are features of prison reform which deserve the commendation of every humane citizen of the State.

Nebraska, with her broad and rich prairies and fertile valleys, is pre-eminently an agricultural State. According to the official report of the State Board of Agriculture, for the year 1888, there were within the State 9,521,966 acres of improved land, valued at \$40,144,780, and 13,353,171 acres of unimproved land valued at \$30,307,241; thus making the average value per acre of the improved lands \$4.07, and of the unimproved lands \$2.80. These values were obtained from the assessments for taxation, and as can readily be seen, were far below the actual values, the latter being double, or more than double, the assessed values. The number of acres reported, both improved and unimproved, equals 22,875,137, the amount then owned and subject to taxation. The total number of acres within the State as re-

ported by the census of 1885, was 47,869,978. This shows that less than one-half of the real property of the State was then subject to taxation. In the agricultural report pertaining to cereals and vegetables many counties are left out, consequently the aggregate amounts raised in the State in 1888 cannot be given.

The following statement will show the kinds of products raised, total yield and average yield per acre in four counties, representing different localities of the State, indicating the crops raised therein:

Adams—Corn, 3,096,380 bushels, average, 35 bushels; wheat 298,104, bushels, average 12; oats 1,512,600 bushels, average 30; barley, 222,728 bushels, average 12; rye, 5,544 bushels, average 11; flax, 9,600 bushels, average 6; millet, 1,100 tons, average 2; potatoes not reported; fruit trees, 9,845; forest trees, 2,561,183; grape vines, 15,479.

Lancaster—Corn, 8,004,900 bushels, average 50; wheat, 170,496 bushels, average 18; oats, 1,930,980 bushels, average 60; barley, 23,184 bushels, average 20; rye, 5,400 bushels, average 15; flax, 3,276 bushels, average 12; millet, 2,100 tons, average 3; potatoes, 34,500 bushels, average 172.5; fruit trees, 71,283; forest trees, 2,777,314; grape vines, 1,283.

Lincoln—Corn, 400,000 bushels, average 40; wheat, 15,000 bushels, average 15; oats, 35,000 bushels, average 35; barley, 6,250 bushels, average 25; rye, 8,000 bushels, average 40; millet, 1,000 tons, average 2; potatoes, 80,000 bushels, average 40; trees not reported.

Platte—Corn, 2,672,540 bushels, average 41; wheat, 214,600 bushels, average 10; oats, 1,081,850 bushels, average 35; barley, 16,632 bushels, average 12; flax, 17,210 bushels, average, 10; millet, 6,480 tons, average 3; potatoes, 121,950 bushels, average 150; fruit trees, 29,145; forest trees, 1,776,000; grape vines 12,125.

The yield per acre of the several products in these counties can be taken as a fair average yield per acre throughout the State. The trees and vines represent the total number planted, and should not be construed as the number planted in 1888.

The total number of animals in the State, and their assessed values in 1888, were as follows:

Horses, 372,829, \$9,425,542, average \$20.21; cattle, 1,505,634, \$8,436,940, average \$6.08; mules and asses, 43,191, \$993,208, average \$24.36; sheep, 195,105, \$105,830, average \$0.50; hogs, 1,238,731, \$1,318,975, average \$1.17. The average value of each animal is the average throughout the State, but not uniform in the several counties. The assessed values are very unequal throughout the State. Land in some counties is assessed for taxation at nearly twice the price it is in other counties where the soil and shipping facilities are equally as good, and the same is true with regard to animals; for instance, in 1888, horses were assessed in Lancaster County at \$17.11, and in Loup County at \$29.29. Are they so much more valuable in Loup than in Lancaster County? At the same time cattle were assessed per head at from \$2.66 up to \$13.06; mules and asses at from \$11.80 up to \$46.75; sheep at from ten cents up to \$1.42. This shows that stringent legislation is needed in order to secure greater uniformity in the assessment of property.

The value of the taxable property of the State, as assessed for taxation from 1881 to 1888 inclusive, has been as follows: In 1881, \$93,142,456.99; in 1882, \$98,537,475.11; in 1883, \$110,543,644.58; in 1884, \$123,615,886.95; in 1885, \$133,418,699.83; in 1886, \$143,932,570.51; in 1887, \$160,506,266.25; in 1888, \$176,012,820.45.

No official report for 1889 has been published. The increase in the values from year to year, also for the whole eight years—the latter being \$82,870,363.47, is noticeable. It is seen that in the short time of eight years the entire taxable wealth of the State nearly doubled. The next biennial report, including 1889 and 1890, will show that in the ten years the property considerably more than doubled in value.

Winter wheat is grown in Nebraska to a limited extent by drilling it between corn rows, with a five-hoed, one horse wheat-corn drill, and leaving the corn stalks stand until spring, when they are cut down. The stalks are left to hold the snow, and thus prevent the ground from freezing dry and killing the wheat. On account of the difficulty to raise winter wheat, spring wheat is generally raised, and it is claimed that it is superior to the former for

bread. Corn is the great staple product, but the soil is well adapted to the raising of all kinds of grains and vegetables. The cultivation of the sugar beet, for the purpose of sugar making, has been introduced, and in all probability the day is not far distant when our sugar will be manufactured at home instead of being imported from foreign countries.

The conditions for successful agriculture are a rich soil, temperate climate and sufficient moisture. Time and experience have removed all doubt as to the existence of the first two in Nebraska, and will soon remove all doubt as to the third.

In 1880, Samuel Aughey, Ph. D., LL. D., professor of natural sciences in the University of Nebraska, published his "Sketches of the Physical Geography and Geology of Nebraska," in which he says "Eastern Nebraska has an abundance of moisture. This may appear like an exaggeration to those who were educated to believe that Nebraska was an arid region. And yet there is nothing in the natural history of the State better established than that there is here an abundance of rainfall. When the snows of winter disappear, the ground is in good condition to be worked. Sufficient showers come during early spring to excite the crops of cereal grains, grasses and corn to an active growth. Sometimes it is comparatively dry between the spring showers and the June rains. These come sometimes earlier than June, in the last of May, and sometimes not till the last of June, and constitute the rainy season for the State. It begins whenever the 'big rise' of the Missouri and the Platte occur. This rainy season lasts from four to eight weeks. In fifteen years I have not known it to fail. During its continuance it does not indeed rain every day, except occasionally for a short period. Generally during this time it rains from two to three times a week. It is more apt to rain every night than every day. In fact during the whole of this season three-fourths of the rain falls at night. It is not an unusual occurrence for the rain to fall every night for weeks, followed by cloudless days. This rainy season of June occurs at a period when crops most need rain, and owing to the regularity of its occurrence, drouths sufficiently severe to destroy the crops in Eastern Nebraska,

where there is proper cultivation, have not yet been known. * * * After the wet season of June, which sometimes extends into July, is over, there are rains and showers at longer intervals until and during autumn. During winter it rarely rains. Snow falls in winter, but seldom to a great depth.

* * * West of the one hundredth meridian the amount of rainfall gradually decreases from the yearly average of thirty inches, at or near Kearney Junction, to twenty inches at North Platte. If the last two years only were taken into account, even there and almost to the west line of the State the rainfall would be estimated at thirty inches."

The professor goes on to prove that the amount of rainfall and moisture was on the increase, and it certainly has been on the increase ever since. Many springs have broken out of late years where no water had ever before been observed, and water has appeared in old creek beds, where it apparently had not been flowing for ages. The streams have also been observed to increase in size. Much speculation has been indulged in as to the cause of the increase of the rainfall, but it is believed that the principal cause is "the great increase in the absorptive power of the soil, wrought by cultivation. Observe now the change which cultivation makes. After the soil is broken, the rain as it falls is absorbed by the soil like a hugh sponge. The soil gives this absorbed moisture back to the atmosphere by evaporation. Thus year by year as cultivation of the soil is extended, more of the rain that falls is absorbed and retained to be given off by evaporation, or to produce springs. This, of course, must give increasing moisture and rainfall." The planting of trees is also believed to be a helping cause for the increase of moisture.

Nebraska, on account of its elevation and the non-existence of swamps and stagnant waters, which produce malaria, is decidedly healthful. The atmosphere is pure and invigorating. The elevation in feet above sea level, at various points throughout the State, as shown in Prof. Aughey's sketches above referred to, is as follows:

Southeast corner of the State on the bottoms at the mouth of the Nemaha River, 878; Nebraska City, 964; Plattsmouth, 984; Omaha, Union Pacific

Depot, 1,056; Blair, 1,111; Fremont, 1,220; Schuyler, 1,372; Columbus, 1,469; Grand Island, 1,887; Kearney, 2,143; North Platte, 2,825; Sidney, 4,108; Pine Bluffs, 5,061; Norfolk, 1,428; Beatrice, 1,278; Orleans, 2,150; head of the Republican in Colorado, 4,050; Lincoln, 1,164; Fairmount, 1,657; Harvard, 1,815; Juniata, 1,985; Kenesaw, 2,064; Lowell, 2,086; Camp Sheridan, Old Spotted Tail Agency, 3,490; Indian Creek, northwest corner of State, 4,013; Scott's Bluffs, thirty miles north of Pine Bluffs, 6,051; White Man's Fork, on State line, south of Union Pacific Railroad, 3,188. It is estimated that the eastern half of the State along the line of the Union Pacific has an average elevation of 1,700 feet; the western half, 3,525 feet. The average elevation along the whole line would be 2,612 feet. The average elevation of the whole State is estimated at 2,312 feet.

While Nebraska does not claim to be a manufacturing State, some of its leading cities are making gigantic strides in that direction. The Omaha Daily Bee of January 1, 1890, speaks of the manufacturing interests of that progressive city as follows:

"Omaha is making great progress as an industrial center. Its silver refining and smelting works, machine shops, foundries, white lead works, chair factory, wire mills, linseed oil works, distillery, boot and shoe factory and a score of other industrial concerns that have been established in this city within the past two years, give employment to an army of wage workers numbering fully 11,000.

Omaha now contains several of the most extensive manufacturing establishments in all America. Its silver smelting works are the largest works of this class in the world; its linseed oil works rival in magnitude with the largest oil mills in America, and its distillery ranks as the fourth largest in the United States. Its beef and hog product packing houses are only second in capacity to those of Chicago.

The Paxton & Vierling Iron Works is one of the leading manufacturing enterprises of Omaha. In 1889 \$300,000 worth of goods were manufactured, employing 200 men with a weekly pay roll of \$1,750.

The Omaha Barb Wire Company, owing to con-

stantly increasing business, were compelled to erect, a few years ago, more commodious works. The product is sold all over the West and they have a capacity for turning out four car loads of barbed wire and 100 kegs of nails each day. They keep sixty men constantly employed, and have a weekly pay roll of \$750. Of the other iron works the Acme Iron and Wire Works has 5 employes; Wilson & Beemer Iron Works, 40; Carter & Son Boiler Works, 15; Wearne Bros' Foundry, 10; Western Cornice Works, 53; Acme Iron Works, 7; Omaha Cornice Works, 25; McBreen & Carter, 6; Eagle Cornice Works, 40; Davis & Cowgill, 30; Champion Iron and Wire Works, 12; Eureka Iron Foundry, 14; McLearn & Oehlrie Foundry, 15. Total number employes, including Barb Wire Works and Paxton & Vierling, 593; total weekly pay rolls, \$6,495.

The Omaha & Grant Smelting and Refining Works handle a large proportion of the ore produced in the mines of Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Dakota and Arizona. The plant covers over twenty-two acres of ground and represents an investment of \$3,500,000. It is the largest silver smelting and refining institution in the world. During the year 50,107 tons of ore were smelted. The average number of employes is 600, who are paid \$30,000 monthly, or about \$380,000 annually. The immensity of the annual business of this great industry is clearly shown by the following statement for the eleven months of 1889, ending November 30:

	Value.
Lead, lb.	74,742,713 \$ 2,721,145.50
Silver, oz.	11,957,977 10,840,059.87
Gold, oz.	112,531 2,289,370.03
Sulphate of copper.	5,886,500 294,000.00

Mention is made on a previous page of the extent of the Union Pacific Shops, employing the largest number of men in Omaha.

The Willow Springs Distillery is the third largest in America. The buildings are substantially erected and cover an area of eight acres. The distillery did a business in 1889 of \$3,300,000, and paid in salaries \$93,360. Taxes were paid the government on the product amounting to \$2,880,000. Four thousand and cattle were fed, 700,512 bushels of grain mashed and 4,000 tons of hay used. The coal consumption was 144,000 tons and 45,600 barrels were

used. One hundred and twenty-five men are employed at the distillery. The rectifying firm of Iler & Co., which is connected with the Willow Springs Distillery Company, has \$500,000 invested in the enterprise, and occupies extensive premises on Harney Street, where a large wholesale liquor establishment is also carried on.

Next in importance to Omaha in the line of manufacturing is the city of Lincoln, where a great many establishments have been erected and put into operation. All the other leading cities of the State and many of the smaller ones have their local manufacturing, some mechanical interests being yet in their infancy. The number of manufactories in the State, in 1880, was 1,403, with an invested capital of \$4,881,150, increased in 1885 to 2,861, with an invested capital of \$12,722,334. In the five years the number and invested capital more than doubled.

From the report of the secretary of State there has been obtained an official directory of Nebraska's public servants, which is here presented, with beginning of term of service:

Governors: Francis Burt, October 16, 1854; Mark W. Izard, February 20, 1855; William A. Richardson, January 12, 1858; Samuel W. Black, May 2, 1858; Alvin Saunders, May 15, 1861; David Butler, February 21, 1867; Robert W. Furnas, January 13, 1873; Silas Garber, January 11, 1875; Albinus Nance, January 9, 1879; James W. Dawes, January 4, 1883; John M. Thayer, January 6, 1887.

Lieutenant governors: Othman A. Abbot, January 4, 1877; Edmund C. Carns, January 9, 1879; A. W. Agee, January 4, 1883; H. H. Shedd, January 8, 1885; George D. Meiklejohn, January 3, 1889.

Secretaries: Thomas B. Cuming, August 3, 1854; John B. Motley, March 23, 1858; J. Sterling Morton, July 12, 1858; Algernon S. Paddock, May 6, 1861; Thomas P. Kennard, February 21, 1867; William H. James, January 10, 1871; John J. Gosper, January 13, 1873; Bruno Tzschuck, January 11, 1875; S. J. Alexander, January 7, 1879; Edward P. Roggen, January 4, 1883; Gilbert L. Laws, January 6, 1887.

Auditors: Charles B. Smith, March 16, 1855;

Samuel L. Campbell, August 3, 1857; William E. Moore, June 1, 1858; Robert C. Jordan, August 2, 1858; William E. Harvey, October 8, 1861; John Gillespie, October 10, 1865; Jefferson B. Weston, January 13, 1873; F. W. Liedtke, January 9, 1879; John Wallich, November 12, 1880; H. A. Babcock, January 8, 1885; T. H. Benton, January 3, 1889.

Treasurers: B. P. Rankin, March 16, 1855; William W. Wyman, November 6, 1855; Augustus Kountze, October 8, 1861; James Sweet, January 11, 1869; Henry A. Koenig, January 10, 1871; J. C. McBride, January 11, 1875; George M. Bartlett, January 9, 1879; Phelps D. Sturtevant, January 4, 1883; Charles H. Willard, January 8, 1885; J. E. Hill, January 3, 1889.

Librarians: James S. Izard, March 16, 1855; H. C. Anderson, November 6, 1855; John H. Kellum, August 3, 1857; Alonzo D. Luce, November 7, 1859; Robert S. Knox, 1861; Thomas P. Kennard, June 22, 1867; William H. James, January 10, 1871; Guy A. Brown, March 3, 1871.

Attorney generals: Champion S. Case, 1867; Seth Robinson, 1869; George H. Roberts, January 10, 1871; J. R. Webster, January 13, 1873; George H. Roberts, January 11, 1875; C. J. Dilworth, January 9, 1879; Isaac Powers, Jr., January 4, 1883; William Leese, January 8, 1885.

Superintendents of public instruction: Seth W. Beals, 1869; J. M. McKenzie, January 10, 1871; S. R. Thompson, January 4, 1877; W. W. W. Jones, January 6, 1881; George B. Lane, January 6, 1887.

Commissioners of public lands and buildings: F. M. Davis, January 4, 1877; A. G. Kendall, January 6, 1881; Joseph Scott, January 8, 1885; John Steen, January 3, 1889.

Judges of supreme court—chief justices: Fenner Ferguson, October 12, 1854; Augustus Hall, March 15, 1858; William Pitt Kellogg, May 27, 1861; William Kellogg, May 8, 1865; William A. Little, 1866; Oliver P. Mason, 1866; George B. Lake, January 16, 1873; Daniel Gantt, January 3, 1878; Samuel Maxwell, May 29, 1878; George B. Lake, January 1, 1882; Amasa Cobb, January 1, 1884; Samuel Maxwell, January 1, 1886; M. B. Reese, January 1, 1888.

Associate justices and judges: Edward R. Harden, December 4, 1854; James Bradley, October 25, 1854; Samuel W. Black; Eleazer Wakeley, April 22, 1857; Joseph Miller, April 9, 1859; William F. Lockwood, May 16, 1861; Joseph E. Streeter, November 18, 1861; Elmer S. Dundy, June 22, 1863; George B. Lake, February 21, 1867; Lorenzo Crounse, February 21, 1867; Daniel Gantt, January 16, 1873; Samuel Maxwell, January 16, 1873; Amasa Cobb, May 29, 1878; M. B. Reese, January 1, 1884.

Clerks of supreme court: H. C. Anderson, 1856; Charles L. Salisbury, 1858; E. B. Chandler, 1859; John H. Kellum, 1861; William Kellogg, Jr., 1865; George Armstrong, 1867; Guy A. Brown, August 8, 1868.

Reporters of supreme court: J. M. Woolworth, 1870; Lorenzo Crounse, 1873; Guy A. Brown, 1875.

Delegates and members of Congress: Napoleon B. Giddings, December 12, 1854; Bird B. Chapman, November 6, 1855; Fenner Ferguson, August 3, 1857; Experience Estabrook, October 11, 1859; Samuel G. Daily, October 9, 1860; Phineas W. Hitchcock, October 11, 1864; T. M. Marquette, March 2, 1866; John Taffe, October 9, 1867; Lorenzo Crounse, October 8, 1872; Frank Welch, November 7, 1876; Thomas J. Majors, December, 1877; E. K. Valentine, November 5, 1878; A. J. Weaver, March 4, 1883; James Laird, March 4, 1883; George W. E. Dorsey, March 4, 1885; John A. McShane, March 4, 1887.

United States Senators: John M. Thayer, 1867-71; Thomas W. Tipton, 1867-75; Phineas W. Hitchcock, 1871-77; Algernon S. Paddock, 1875-81; Alvin Saunders, 1877-83; C. H. Van Wyck, 1881-87; Charles F. Manderson, 1883-89; Algernon S. Paddock, 1887-93.

United States marshals: Mark W. Izard, October 28, 1854; Eli R. Doyle, April 7, 1855; Benjamin P. Rankin, March 29, 1856; Phineas W. Hitchcock, September 19, 1861; Casper E. Yost, April 1, 1865; J. T. Hoile, July 1, 1869; William Daily, 1871; Ellis Bierbower, 1880.

The following abstract of votes cast for presidential candidates since Nebraska's admission into the Union will be of interest: 1868, Ulysses S.

Grant (R), 9,782; Horatio D. Seymour (D), 5,519; 1872, Ulysses S. Grant (R), 17,702; Horace Greeley (D), 7,548; 1876, Rutherford B. Hayes (R), 31,833; Samuel J. Tilden (D), 17,554; 1880, James A. Garfield (R), 54,979; Winfield S. Hancock (D), 28,523; Gen. Weaver (Nat), 3,950; 1884, James G. Blaine (R), 76,912; Butler and Cleveland (Fusion-D), 54,391; John P. St. John (P), 2,899; 1888, Benjamin Harrison (R), 108,425; Grover Cleveland (D), 80,552; Fiske (P), 9,429; Streeter (U. L), 4,226.

The popular vote for governor has been: 1866, David Butler, 4,093; J. Sterling Morton, 3,948; 1868, David Butler, 8,576; J. R. Porter, 6,349; 1870, David Butler, 11,126; John H. Croxton, 8,648; 1872, Robert W. Furnas, 16,543; Henry C. Lett, 11,227; 1874, Silas Garber, 21,568; Albert Tuxbury, 8,025; J. F. Gardner, 4,059; J. S. Church, 1,346; 1876, Silas Garber, 31,947; Parn England, 17,219; J. F. Gardner, 3,022; scattering, 36; 1878, Albinus Nance, 29,469; W. H. Webster, 13,473; Levi G. Todd, 9,475; 1880, Albinus Nance, 55,237; T. W. Tipton, 28,167; O. T. B. Williams, 3,898; scattering, 43; 1882, James W. Daws, 43,495; J. Sterling Morton, 28,562; E. P. Ingersoll, 16,991; scattering, 30; 1884, James W. Daws, 72,835; J. S. Morton, 57,634; J. G. Miller, 3,075; scattering, 11; 1886, John M. Thayer, 75,956; James E. North, 52,656; H. H. Hardy, 8,175; J. Burrows, 1,422; scattering, 30; 1888, John M. Thayer, 103,983; John A. McShane, 85,420; George E. Bigelow, 9,511; David Butler, 3,941; scattering, 10.

Congressional candidates in the several Congressional districts at the general elections in November, 1882, 1884, 1886 and 1888, received the following votes. In the First district, composed of the counties of Cass, Douglas, Gage, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Sarpy and Saunders: 1882, A. J. Weaver (R), 17,022; John I. Redick (D), 12,690; W. S. Gilbert (P), 3,707; 1884, A. J. Weaver (R), 22,644; Charles H. Brown (D), 21,669; E. J. O'Neil (P), 1,024; 1886, Church Howe (R), 16,373; John A. McShane (D), 23,396; George Bigelow (P), 2,876; 1888, W. J. Connell (R), 32,926; J. S. Morton (D), 29,519; Edwin B. Graham (P), 2,962; J. W. Edgerton (U. L), 650.

In the Second district, composed of the counties

of Adams, Butler, Chase, Clay, Dundy, Fillmore, Furnas, Franklin, Frontier, Gasper, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Jefferson, Kearney, Nuckolls, Phelps, Polk, Red Willow, Saline, Seward, Thayer, Webster and York, in 1882 James Laird (R) received 12,983 votes; V. S. Moore (D), 10,012; F. A. Harman (D), 3,060; 1884, James Laird (R), 21,182; J. H. Stickel (D), 17,650; B. Crabb (P), 1,176; 1886, James Laird (R), 21,373; W. A. McKeighan (D), 16,315; C. S. Harrison (P), 3,789; 1888, James Laird (R), 30,959; W. G. Hastings (D), 21,207; George Scott (P), 4,128; H. H. Rohr (U. L), 1,590.

The Third district is composed of the counties of Antelope, Blaine, Boone, Box Butte, Brown, Buffalo, Burt, Cedar, Cheyenne, Cherry, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Dawes, Dixon, Dodge, Dawson, Grant, Greeley, Garfield, Hall, Holt, Howard, Keya Paha, Keith, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Perkins, Pierce, Platte, Sioux, Sheridan, Sherman, Stanton, Thomas, Valley, Washington, Wayne and Wheeler. The votes cast in the district have been, in 1882, F. K. Valentine (R), 11,284; M. K. Turner (D), 7,342; W. H. Munger (D), 9,932; 1884, G. W. E. Dorsey (R), 25,985; William Neville (D), 20,871; Albert Felch (P), 572; 1886, G. W. E. Dorsey (R), 28,717; A. H. Webster (D), 20,943; W. J. Olinger (P), 2,583; 1888, G. W. E. Dorsey (R), 42,288; E. P. Weatherby (D), 31,128; A. M. Walling (P), 2,995; F. O. Jones (U. L), 1,487.

The population of the Territory and State of Nebraska at the different years mentioned has been as follows: 1855, 4,494; 1856, 10,716; 1860, 28,841; 1870, 122,993; 1874, 230,007; 1875, 246,280; 1876, 257,747; 1878, 313,748; 1880, 452,542; 1885, 740,645. According to the rate of increase from 1880 to 1885, the population of 1890 will be about 1,200,000, though owing to the increased facilities for immigration, it may exceed that estimate.

As has been the case in all or nearly all newly settled portions of America, ministers of the Gospel accompanied the pioneer settlers to the Territory of Nebraska and began preaching the Word of God; and, in proportion as the Territory and State has increased in population, religious organizations have

been established and church edifices have been erected. In several older States the Methodists and Baptists were, for some years, the pioneer Christian workers; but this cannot be said of Nebraska, for, with its settlement, side by side with the ministers of these denominations were the preachers of the Presbyterian, Christian, Disciple, and other churches.

It is probable that the United States garrison, stationed where Nebraska City now stands, was favored with religious services by a chaplain several years before the settlement of the Territory began. Early in the spring of 1854, Rev. William D. Gage, a Methodist missionary, began regular preaching in Nebraska City. A frame "meeting house" was erected soon thereafter. The following year the Methodist and Baptist denominations each organized a church with several constituent members. The first was under the supervision of Rev. Gage, and the members were Rev. Gage himself and wife, Mattie Gage, William Walker and wife, M. Ridden and Mrs. Rowena Craig. The second was under the supervision of Rev. J. C. Renfro, and the members were B. B. Belcher, Samuel Findley, Edward McHenry, Lucinda Nuckolls, Mary Ann Belcher, Lavison Cook and Caroline Thomas. The same year, 1855, a church was organized in Nebraska City by the Presbyterians, under the supervision of Revs. H. M. Giltner, a missionary, and L. G. Bell, of Sidney, Iowa. The constituent members were D. F. Jackson and wife, W. B. Hall and wife, Mrs. Harriet Anderson, Mrs. Mary Cowles, Mrs. Catharine Cowles, Miss Maggie J. Martin, Solomon Martin, David Martin, W. S. Van Doren, Dr. J. C. Campbell, Miss Emily Lorton, Miss Nancy Pearman and Mrs. S. E. Giltner.

The Christian Church, organized in Brownville in January, 1855, by Elder Joel M. Woods, is said to have been the first organized religious body in the Territory, except the Indian Mission. In 1858 the Methodist Episcopal, Congregational, Presbyterian and Baptist Churches each organized societies in Brownville. In 1855, the next year after the site of Omaha was settled, a religious awakening took place there under the preaching of Revs. Koulher, Isaac F. Collins, William Leach, Moses F. Shinn and Reuben Gaylord.

"The latter was one of the foremost and most influential of the holy men who came into the wilderness and assisted in shaping the religious destiny, not alone of Omaha, but of Nebraska and the West. He was born in the State of Connecticut, where a mother's instruction and prayers directed his opening powers and led to an early consecration to God. Upon his graduation, he passed twenty years in Iowa, laying the foundations of his church in that State, whence he came to Omaha on a prospecting tour. At that time there was no church organization of his denomination, nor house of worship of any other religious association. He immediately entered upon his duties as a minister, and preached in the old capitol building on Ninth Street. On the first Sabbath in May, 1856, he organized a Congregational Church with nine members, holding services in the dining-room of the Douglas House. He soon inaugurated measures for the erection of a church edifice, which was completed and dedicated in 1857, and after a service in the pastures of the Lord for nearly a third of a century, he passed away. He died in 1880, respected as a minister of the Gospel for his talents and Christian virtues, not more than for his work as a man in public and private life."

"Foremost also among those who came in the same cause during 1855, was the Rev. W. Emmonds, of Council Bluffs, who enjoys the distinction of having been the first Catholic clergyman in the Territory of Nebraska. He came for the purpose of attending to the wants of the Catholics in Omaha, but finding no accommodations for the performance of his sacred duties, he was compelled to return to Council Bluffs, whither at intervals devout Catholics on this side were forced to repair to attend mass and approach the sacraments. During the latter part of the year, it is claimed that mass was said in the Representative chamber of the old capitol, while others insist that the services were held at the residence of the Hon. T. B. Cuming, corner of Dodge and Eighteenth Streets. Be this as it may, no church was determined upon until June, 1856, when Thomas O'Connor, James Ferry and Vincent Burkley were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions."—[Andrews' History of Nebraska.] The

church edifice, a small brick building, was erected before the year closed.

In 1855 the Methodists held services at Archer, the original county seat of Richardson County, and the same year a class was organized at the home of Henry Shellhorn on South Fork, in Pawnee County. Rev. David Hart was the pioneer Methodist preacher in this extreme southeastern part of the State. Also in 1855, a Presbyterian Church was organized at Bellevue, in Sarpy County, by Rev. William Hamilton. The following year Rev. I. E. Heaton, of the Congregational Church, commenced preaching at Fremont, and in 1857 a Congregational and a Methodist Church were organized at that place.

Prior to 1854 only a few points in the Territory now composing the State of Nebraska had been permanently settled, and not a sufficient number of individuals had settled at any particular place to organize a church. But during that and the following year there seems to have been a large immigration to the Territory, and it is remarkable how rapidly religious denominations began to organize churches. The denominations mentioned in the foregoing may be considered the pioneers in inaugurating Christian work in the new Territory. All of them have grown strong in numbers and in property, and it is to be hoped equally as strong in their zeal to advance the cause of Christianity. In 1857-58, especially in the latter year, many new churches mostly by the denominations mentioned were organized. But few if any other denominations organized societies in the Territory prior to 1860. In this year, on August 3, Bishop Talbot, of the Episcopal Church, held services in Plattsmouth, and the society organized by him received its regular supply the following year in the person of Rev. Isaac A. Hager, who commenced his work June 16. The St. James Episcopal Church of Bellevue was organized in 1861, by Rev. I. A. Hager. Services were held at different points until 1867, when the name of the society was changed from St. James to Holy Trinity, and the work of erecting an edifice begun. In the fall of 1863, Episcopal services were held in Brownville, by Rt. Rev. J. C. Talbot, the second missionary bishop of the diocese, and a society still existing was organized. Bishop Talbot and Rev. O. C.

Dake held the first Episcopal service in Fremont, July 14, 1865, from which time Dr. Dake became the settled pastor. This denomination has since organized many societies throughout the State, and become prominent in religious work. In 1860 Roman Catholic services were first held in Plattsmouth, and the following year a church edifice was erected. In 1868 Bishop O'Gorman organized a Roman Catholic Church in Lincoln, and in 1879 the church of St. Theresa, one of the largest and handsomest structures in the city, was erected. Many Catholic churches, especially in the larger cities and towns of the State, now exist, the memberships consisting largely of citizens from the old country.

In 1866 a society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized at Nebraska City; but as there has only been a sprinkling of immigrants from the South, this denomination has not become prominent in the State. German Methodist Episcopal, German Presbyterian, Evangelical Lutheran and United Brethren Churches have been organized in some of the larger cities. The Universalist Church organized a society at Lincoln, September 1, 1870. Rev. James Gorton was the first pastor. Their church building, completed in June, 1872, was the first one erected in Nebraska by Universalists. There are but few organizations of this denomination within the State. In a few cities of the State, where there is a considerable population of colored people, Colored Methodist, Colored Baptist and African Methodist Churches have been established. At a few points in the State the Seventh Day Adventists have colonized themselves and organized and established churches; but they are not numerically strong throughout this locality. Other denominations, not herein named, have also organized religious societies.

Numerically the Methodist Episcopal Church is the strongest in Nebraska, having at this time (March, 1890) a membership of about 35,000. The original Nebraska conference of this denomination, organized in 1860, embraced all that portion of the State lying east of the line between Ranges 12 and 13 west. This line forms the western boundary of Webster, Adams, Hall, Howard, Greeley and Wheeler Counties. All that portion of the State

lying west thereof was made a mission district. In 1881 the Nebraska conference was divided by the Platte River from its mouth to the line dividing Townships 15 and 16 north; thence west on this line to the point where it again crosses the river; thence up the river to the western boundary of the conference. All lying south of this line retained the original name "Nebraska Conference," and all lying north thereof was made to constitute a new conference by the name of the "North Nebraska Conference." Since that time the mission district, above described, has been erected into conference, and named "West Nebraska Conference." The twenty-ninth session of the Nebraska Annual Conference was held at York, October 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1889, Bishop John H. Vincent, presiding. The thirtieth annual session of this conference will be held at Hastings.

A detailed history of individual church organizations will appear in the county histories.

The best history of Nebraska is found in the columns of the newspapers which were founded with the first settlement of the Territory. The history of the newspapers of Nebraska would alone fill a volume. The rapid development of the State is due largely to their efforts, and no State in the Union can boast of a better class of newspapers or a more intelligent and enterprising class of publishers. The first newspaper published in Nebraska was the Palladium and Platte Valley Advocate, issued on

November 14, 1854, by Thomas Morton, D. E. Reed & Co. It preceded the publication of the Arrow but a few days, the latter paper being issued at Omaha on November 28, 1854. The Nebraska City News was established in 1855, with J. Sterling Morton at the editorial helm. As the Territory increased in population the number of newspapers increased. Journalism has not only kept pace with progress in Nebraska, but has actually preceded it, and to-day nearly every village has its local publication, while the larger towns and cities support from two to twenty and more papers. The leading daily papers of Omaha are the Bee, the World-Herald, the Republican and the Democrat. These papers will compare favorably with the best daily newspapers of the country, especially the Bee, which out-ranks all Western journalistic efforts. Lincoln has the Daily State Journal, Daily News and Daily Call. Fremont has two dailies, the Tribune and the Herald. The Express and Democrat, both dailies, are able exponents of Beatrice. Nebraska City has the Daily Press and the Daily News. Grand Island supports the Daily Independent, while Hastings is represented by the Daily Nebraskan. Kearney gives a liberal support to the Enterprise, the Hub and the Journal, all dailies. Plattsmouth supports two dailies, while Columbus, York, Broken Bow and Red Cloud each boast of enterprising daily publications. The weekly publications of Nebraska number into the hundreds.



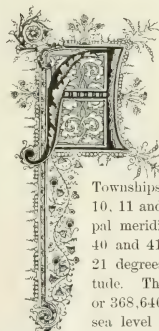


ADAMS COUNTY.

CHAPTER XII.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH—LOCATION AND AREA—POPULATION—ADAPTABILITY TO AGRICULTURE—PHYSICAL FEATURES—NATURAL GAS—CLIMATIC FEATURES—GAME—FREMONT'S TRAVELS—KIT CARSON—THE GOVERNMENT WELL—INDIAN TREATIES—"BILL" KRESS—SOME FIRST THINGS—PIONEERS—ORIGINAL TAX ROLL—SETTLERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

"The past is theirs—the future ours;
And we must learn and teach. * *
They had no model, but they left us one."



ADAMS County is one of the divisions of Nebraska in the second tier of counties north of the Kansas line, 120 miles west of the Missouri River. Its Congressional description is—

Townships 5, 6, 7 and 8, in Ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12, west of the sixth principal meridian, almost midway between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and 21 degrees and 20 degrees west longitude. The area is 576 square miles or 368,640 acres. The elevation above sea level at Hansen is 1,949 feet, at Hastings 1,934, at Pauline 1,777, at Roseland 1,969; Holstein 2,011 and Leroy 1,860. The population in 1870 was 19; in 1874, 2,694; in 1875, 3,093; in 1876, 3,940; in 1878, 5,583; in 1879, 8,162; in 1880,* 10,239; in 1885, 18,002; while, in 1889, it was estimated at 25,000.

*In 1880 Adams County was divided into nine districts for the purpose of census enumeration, and the following named citizens were appointed enumerators: C. H. Paul, A. J. Orendorf, L. W. Crainor, Rev. H. A. Gould, W. Darling, H. S. Crane, R. L. Miles, A. C. Moore, and D. Sinclair.

In 1873 the pioneer agriculturists were firmly established and every township gave evidence of its possibilities. There were scarcely a thousand persons in the fields of Adams County at the time; but the news of success of the fortunate ones soon spread abroad and, by the spring of 1874, over 1,500 persons came to share in the fortunes of the pioneers. All became evangelists of faith in Nebraska and, notwithstanding the difficulty of setting aside the ideas of the "Great American Desert," inculcated for 30 years, and based on the reports of the Pathfinder, Fremont, the teachings of the new doctrine were well received and answered by almost a thousand more in 1874-75. Then the great truth spread out that Fremont's desert lay west of longitude 23 degrees, and his description, even then, was only applicable in part; for, when supplied with water to make up for the limited rainfall, that portion of the State west of longitude 23 degrees is highly productive and its fecundity proverbial. For a thousand years its natural grasses have insured to the great herds of buffalo a pasturage at once abundant and rich in such parts as support animal life, and, when the humid region of Nebraska is

filled to overflowing, that section of the State and adjoining territory, comprising 100,000,000 acres of arid lands, will become the home of industry.

The Little Blue rises in Kearney County, but the greater number of its sources are found in Adams County. Its course in Nebraska is about 110 miles. It receives the Big Sandy in Jefferson County, and flows into the Big Blue south of the State line. In its beautiful valley a few of the early settlements of the State were made, and in later years the sanguinary Sioux enacted many of their tragedies along its course. The head streams of the Little Blue give to the greater portion of Adams County many advantages—except in the neighborhood of Kenesaw, they give a stream to almost every section. Pawnee, Sandy, Thirty-two Mile and Cottonwood Creeks are the principal feeders of this river. The northwestern townships of the county are drained by the Platte, the south channel of which occupies the extreme northwest corner.* The divide between the Republican and the Little Blue is almost on the line between Webster and Adams Counties.

The Chamberlain well phenomena, the disturbances in the well on the Jones farm, north of the city, the escape of gas above the village of St. Paul, and the gas spring near Omaha, drew the attention of the people to the existence of natural gas under the prairies.

One of the most thorough explorations of strata, made in Central Nebraska, was begun in August, 1889, and completed to 1,040 feet on December 6, 1889, when George Haller, who kept a record of strata, reported to the Tribune: From 125 feet to 230 feet an extensive bed of sand and water was found. At 230 feet the great bed of yellow ochre was discovered. By a good many this was thought to be a glazier formation. At 260 to 270 feet the ochre began to have a gray color. At 280 feet a light colored shale was found with a few thin streaks of gray spar. This shale extends to a depth of 430 feet, more or less darker at different depths. Here a formation of gypsum and limestone was passed

through, it being probably a foot and a half thick. A small flow of water was then struck; then the shale again. It continued to show small deposits of iron pyrites, and then thin stratas of limestone, with occasionally a small streak of gray spar. This formation continued until a depth of 805 was reached, but from 805 to 950 feet shale predominated. Then about seven feet of very thin limestone were passed through; then about twenty feet of shale gypsum; then about twenty feet of "gumbo" shale. At 900 feet from five to six feet of gypsum, then shale, dry spar and limestone until a depth of 925 was reached. Here a vein of water and a little sand were observed for the first time after leaving the large bed of sand. From 925 to 942½ feet, at which latter point the great salt bed was struck, a soft "gumbo" like shale, getting softer near the salt. From 942½ to 987½ the salt bed. After leaving the salt, sandstone was found. From 400 feet down the gas odor was stronger as the distance increased until the salt was struck. Another fact is that more or less small pieces of iron pyrites were found all the way from 300 to 930 feet. What future boring may develop is an unknown quantity—the enterprise of business men must find it out—the scientific man can only speculate.

Joseph Horgan discovered a large deposit of calcine on his farm in June, 1873.

The seasons are delightful. No killing frosts in the spring are likely in Nebraska after April 16, and no frost after May 14; in the fall, during seventeen years, the average date of killing frosts is October 7; slight frost, September 23. The hottest month is July, the coldest, February. Grass has started so as to change the aspect of the prairie by April 9, and by April 29 will yield cattle a full support. The cold weather begins in January and continues until April. On January 1, 1883, the thermometer registered 8 degrees below at Hastings; on the 7th, 14th and 18th was at zero, while on the 19th it was 30 degrees below; on the 20th, 26 degrees, and 21st, 16 degrees below. On January 1, 1884, it was 10 degrees below, and on the 5th and 24th, 18 degrees below. It fell to 26 degrees on January 1, 1885, to 18 degrees on the 16th, and to 22 degrees on the 19th and 20th. On January 8,

*In early years (1850) there was a small lake near the great trail, three miles northwest of Kenesaw. The Germans who carried the mail from the Missouri to Colorado had a camping ranch six miles north of Kenesaw, round which grass was abundant.

1886, 26 degrees below were registered; on the 16th, 23 degrees; on the 9th, 24 degrees, and on the 16th, 20 degrees below. The mercury showed 12 degrees below on January 1, 1887; 15 degrees on the 6th, and 20 degrees on the 8th and 9th. On January 1, 1881, the mercury was 6 degrees below; on the 8th, 12 degrees; on the 12th, a blizzard; on the 13th, 14 degrees; on the 14th, 20 degrees; on the 15th, 24 degrees, and on the 16th, 12 degrees. February of 1888 was the most temperate of all Februaries during the six years given, the mercury ranging from 60 degrees to 66 degrees above for several days; but March was the coldest March of all the years. Travelers may speak of the beautiful fall in Southern France and along the chain of the Pyrenees; but it is very questionable if the sunshine is of longer duration there than in this section of Nebraska. The fall of 1889 was just simply a continuation of the summer, and the sky a summer's sky. When winter spreads her mantle over the prairies he comes to stay for three full months. He is grim, of course, and treacherous; but withall, this Nebraska winter clarifies the soil, builds up the constitution of man, and carries with it health to all who come here healthy; and, in some cases, causes the disappearance of even hereditary disease.

The blizzard of April, 1873, came when the robes of winter had disappeared, and the pioneers of Adams were enjoying the first spring day of that year. Although a warm rain was falling, the farmers were busy in the fields, and the stock had been turned loose among the corn-stalks. Late in the afternoon the mercury fell, and toward the close of the day a cold breeze sprung up, which suddenly changed into a blizzard, filling the air with snow and corn-stalks. A Mrs. Brown, of the Independent, speaking of this storm in 1888, says: "The temperature seemed to be falling at the rate of forty degrees in thirty-nine minutes; no one had time to do anything but fly in doors, and before midnight one of the worst blizzards that ever struck Nebraska was prevailing with a fury that was frightful to contemplate." The story was suggested by the blizzard of January 12, 1888, in which Mrs. Malinda Chapman and two children of Mrs. Faust, of Turtle Creek, were frozen to death. The cyclone of April, 1874,

broke over Kenesaw, closing a beautiful afternoon, and scattering the homes of the people. One house, belonging to A. D. Williams, alone remained of the little town, and into this the frightened people ran for safety. It is related that E. G. Knapp, his wife, and W. V. Miller sought shelter in a sod hen-house (about forty-five cubical feet in size) and remained there for seventy-two hours, a can of peaches and two eggs, picked up from the debris, being their only provision for food.

In May, 1874, a heavy rain storm swept over this section. The wide prairie was unable to absorb the volume of water, and so it spread out into a shallow lake, the depression in which Kenesaw is located being submerged to a depth of over three feet. During the thunder storm of April 17, 1880, the house belonging to Thomas Hughes, three miles northeast of Juniata, was destroyed by lightning. The wife of Eugene Parnum was killed and himself scorched by the fluid. The storm of June 25, 1881, created havoc among small buildings in and around Juniata, floral hall on the agricultural grounds being entirely destroyed. On July 11, 1882, a hail storm swept over the county from a point two miles west of Hastings. It broke nearly 2,000 panes of glass in the city, and in its southerly course destroyed crops of all kinds. On July 12, 1883, a similar storm swept a section of country, two miles north of Hastings, destroying a strip of crops twenty-four miles in length by two in width, or forty-eight full sections. In view of such disasters the question of organizing a hail insurance company was raised in January, 1884. The storm of July 20, 1884, commenced north of Grand Island, and created havoc along its southwestern course at Juniata, Hansen and other places.

The leg-bone of a mastodon was unearthed in October, 1883, on a farm belonging to the Nebraska Real Estate Company. How long since the giants of the wilderness roamed over the land? What animals did they crowd out? Who were their hunters? are all questions which history cannot answer. The buffalo, moose, the antelope are the only great animals of this class known to exist on the prairies within this historic period. Since the settlement of Adams County, they have appeared at intervals

within its boundaries and since its settlement the last great herd of buffalo disappeared within a circle of fire and under showers of lead. In June, 1873, two buffalo visited the Plank farm near Hastings, both of which the owner killed. Prior to this time, as recorded in the history of Clay County, a young woman rode down and captured an antelope in the vicinity of Spring Ranche. During the latter part of January and early in February, 1890, weekly wolf hunts formed the programme for the farmers in the northern part of the county.

One of the first and largest white owls ever captured in this country was captured by Frank Ternow, of Holstein, in December, 1889. It measured five feet and a half from tip to tip of wing.

During the latter part of July and the first days of August, 1873, a plague of insects descended on the prairies, like a heavy cloud which obscured the sunlight. All vegetation, save the single prairie grasses, disappeared before the devouring myriads, and within two days the grain fields were laid waste. Through the efforts of the State Grange, the United States appropriated \$150,000 for the relief of the sufferers, while the States and the cities contributed liberally.

A local blacksmith, it is alleged, guarded his anvil to save it from the "pesky things." He had little faith in the "hoppers." He saw them eat holes in axe handles, devour brooms and broom handles; he witnessed the destruction of his fields, and now was determined to save his anvil.

The plague of locusts falling upon this country, at a time when the pioneers looked forward to a harvest of plenty, was a great disappointment indeed. Such a disaster would result in an exodus in almost any other State; but the sufferers had faith in their rich prairie lands, and their faith has since been repeatedly rewarded by rich harvests and years free from climatic or other disadvantages. It is true that, during the fall of 1889, the grain warehouse blockade and the utter lack of transportation facilities for the immense corn product of this section, caused some discontent and no small loss to the grain growers; but under all this manifest disaffection was the consolatory conviction that however much other parts of the world might suffer

from short products, there was grain enough for millions still in this prairie Egypt.

The quietest year of the decade ending December 31, 1889, was the one just then closed. Summer mixed with fall continued up to December 28, and so disorganized commercial circles a little; but the interest in the lands of Adams County did not abate, for from January 2 to December 24, there were no less than 1,597 deeds to real estate recorded.

The first recorded exploration of the Platte Valley dates back to 1739. During that and the following year Messieurs Pierre and Paul Mallet, Philip Robitaille and others traveled up the valley, and in 1740 reported to the commandant at New Orleans. The Lewis and Clarke and the Long expeditions followed.

The Fremont expedition of 1842 reached the Big Blue in longitude 19 degrees, 32 minutes, 35 seconds west of Washington, D. C., and latitude 39 degrees, 45 minutes, 8 seconds, on June 20. On the evening of the 22d the command camped on the Little Blue, twenty-four miles west of their first camp in Nebraska, and next day crossed Sandy Creek. Game appeared in large numbers, elk and antelope coming to the little hill tops to take observation of the visitors. Col. Fremont describes his first experiences in a Nebraska rain storm. He says: "A heavy bank of black clouds in the west came on us in a storm, preceded by a violent wind. The rain fell in such torrents that it was difficult to breathe facing the wind; the thunder rolled incessantly, and the whole sky was tremulous with lightning, now and then illuminated by a blinding flash, succeeded by pitchy darkness."

Kit Carson was one of the leading spirits of this expedition. On the third or fourth night out from the first camp in Nebraska, he had the watch from 10 P. M. to midnight with Brant and Benton, whose first night on duty this was. The stories of Indian atrocity and cunning had already unnerved the aforesaid pair of tenderfeet, and the two hours of duty imposed upon them was only preferable to a sentence to return home; but necessity drove them to fulfil this duty, and afterward they accepted such duty like veterans. On the fifth morning while proceeding up the valley of the Little Blue, objects were

seen on the opposite hills which disappeared instantly. One of the rear guard came up rapidly, calling, "Indians! Indians!" He reassured his fellow travelers that twenty-seven red-skins were within view. The alarm drove every man to prepare for a battle, and even Kit Carson placed some reliance on the statement; for, mounting an unsaddled horse, he went forth into the rolling prairie to scout, and returning, reported that the twenty-seven Indians had resolved themselves into six elk.

On the night of June 25, 1842, Fremont's party camped in longitude 21 degrees, 22 minutes, 12 seconds west of Washington, in north latitude 40 degrees, 26 minutes, 50 seconds, a point about four miles south of the present city of Hastings, and four miles east of the fork of the Blue where the old road left the river for the Platte. No water was found on the divide. Antelope appeared during the succeeding morning although an electric and rain storm was raging. In the Colonel's report of June 26 he states: "Crossing on the way several Pawnee roads to the Arkansas, we reached, in about twenty-one miles from our halt on the Blue, what is called the coast of the Nebraska or Platte River. This had seemed, in the distance, a range of high and broken hills; but on a nearer approach was found to be elevations of forty to sixty feet, into which the wind had worked the sand. They were covered with the usual fine grasses of the country, and bordered the eastern side of the ridge on a breadth of about two miles. Change of soil and country appeared here to have produced a change in vegetation. *Cacti* were numerous, and all the plants of the region seemed to flourish among the warm hills. The *Amorpha* in full bloom was remarkable for its large and luxuriant purple clusters. From the foot of the coast, a distance of two miles across the level bottom brought us to our encampment on the shore of the river, about twenty miles below the head of Grand Island, which lay extended before us, covered with dense and heavy woods."

The Oregon trail of 1847-48, called the "California Trail" in after years, was not a common roadway as the modern settler understands a roadway. It was a wide avenue of many tracks, widening out to meet the requirements of fancy or neces-

sity or confining itself to a narrow passage across some creek or swamp. This trail changed gradually from the height of land between the Big Sandy and the Little Blue to the Eighteen Mile Ridge and Little Blue Valley, which it followed for sixty miles, when a bee line for Fort Kearney was adopted. Over this trail the mud wagon trains of the Salt Lake express were established in 1858. This train was drawn by a locomotive in the shape of six mules, guided by a *driver* and goaded by a *whipper-up*, whose promotion depended upon the degree of cruelty which he could reach in his whipping trade. Fortunately for the mules the Pike's Peak stampede came up in 1859, and the Salt Lake express being too slow gave way to Ben Halladay's overland stage line and pony express between St. Joseph and Sacramento. Each department of this service was administered in a business-like way. The pony express route—about 2,000 miles in length—was covered in eight days. Each division was 100 miles in length, with a depot at every twenty-five mile point. Indian ponies and courageous riders, weighing about 120 pounds, were employed. The depots of the Overland Stage Line were arranged on the same principle; but the heavy coaches precluded the possibility of making the time of the pony express.

The following facts related by H. G. Armitage are deserving of mention in this chapter: About two miles east of Kenesaw, on the farm of C. P. Meham, can yet be seen the remains of what is called the "old government well." It was dug 100 feet deep and curbed with logs hauled from the Little Blue. Although dug in the "days of '49," it was still in good state of preservation when the first settlers came into the country. This well has a history in connection with a "lone grave" three miles northwest of Kenesaw, where the old "overland" trail comes out of the bluffs into the Platte River Valley. The grave is about a quarter of a mile east of the old trail on the north side of a little hillock. A marble headstone marks the spot, upon which is the following inscription, "Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Susan C. Haile, of Lafayette County, Mo., who died June—, 1852, aged—."

The so-called "government well" was dug by a party for the purpose of selling water to thirsty trav-

elers as they were passing over this divide between the Little Blue and Platte Rivers, a distance of about twenty miles. After leaving the Little Blue, travelers usually made it to this well at about noon. From an old "49er" it is learned that the proprietor of this well was massacred one morning by the Indians, and the well poisoned. Mr. Haile and his wife passing along the trail a few days afterward used of the water and both became violently sick. They succeeded, however, in getting as far on their way as where the "lone grave" is found. Mr. Haile recovered, but his wife died in the night. The next morning Haile took off his wagon-box, and making a coffin from it buried his wife. He then drove back to Omaha, procured the marble headstone, brought it back and marked the long and lonely resting place of his departed companion.

Indian treaties were made with the Otoes, Missouris, Iowas and Pawnees, by the officers of the Missouri Fur Company, as early as 1809. On January 5, 1812, a treaty between the United States and the Pawnees was negotiated; on December 26, 1815, the Mahas and Iowas ratified a talk held during the year. Two years later the Otoes ratified a treaty; while on January 7, 1819, a treaty with the Grand Pawnees and Noisy Pawnees was negotiated, and on January 17, 1819, the Republican Pawnees entered into treaties of peace with the young republic. Benjamin O'Fallon was the prime agent of the United States in the negotiations. December 30, 1825, the Kansas tribe ceded a large tract of territory here, and on April 12, 1834, the Grand Pawnees, Pawnee Loups, Republican Pawnees and Pawnee Tappaye (then residing on the Platte and Loup Fork) ceded all their territory south of the Platte River. The latter treaty was rendered easy of negotiation by the fact that, in 1832, the terrible epidemic, small-pox, carried away the Pawnees and other Indians of this section in large numbers, while the Delawares destroyed their town on the Republican River and killed hundreds of the residents. In 1833 the remnant of this once great tribe moved north of the Platte, where they were found when the Congressional act of June 30, 1834, designated Nebraska as Indian Territory.

The Sioux, Cheyennes and Pawnees may be

termed the original inhabitants of this section, within the historic period at least—the Sioux inhabiting the plains at will. Through it passed the Fremont trail of later days; but owing to the fact that Fort Kearney was only forty miles away, the savages held aloof from this section when in war paint, except during the Civil War, and especially in 1864, when the general attack along the trail was carried out. Evidences of a massacre were observed four miles south of Juniata some years ago; while in the fall of 1870, four of the five emigrants, forming a little party, were killed by the savages. In the history of Clay County the story of the attack on Spring Rancho and other points bordering on the present county of Adams, is related at length from the reminiscences of James Bainter.

Mr. Bainter relates the following anecdote: "Early in the spring of 1866 a man named Cline and myself were trapping near where Ayr now stands, in what is known as Fleming's grove. One morning, while cooking breakfast, two Sioux appeared, and asked for something to eat. After finishing the meal they began packing our furs and, putting them on my pony, started off with our property. I made up my mind not to submit to it, and, as I had just taken from the Dutch oven a hot cake, I concealed a knife therein and followed them. Near the camp was an icy place, and round it the Indian, leading my pony, went, while the other went straight across. Thus they lost sight of each other. I had nearly overtaken the one with the pony when I made a slight noise and he turned and stopped. As I came up to him, I offered the bread, which, with a sardonic grin, he reached to take, and, as he did so, I drew my knife and struck him with it. As he fell I struck him across the throat and killed him without attracting the attention of his companion. I followed Indian number two, and before he was aware of my presence shot him dead, and thus saved our furs and my pony."

For the purposes of this chapter the following memoir of Mortimer N. Kress, the actual pioneer of the county, is given. The story is based on his own relation of names and events.

Mortimer N. Kress, or Bill Kress, as he was sometimes called by companions or friends, in the



Respectfully
M. L. Olmsted

early days when the State of Nebraska was one vast wilderness—was born in Lycoming County, Pa., near Williamsport, in 1841. He was the youngest of thirteen children forming the family of George and Eliza (Dunlap) Kress. His father, a native of the United States, was born in 1799. He followed farming, and was a successful business man until his death in 1873. The senior Mrs. Kress died in 1846, leaving Mortimer, the youngest son, who then was only five years old, an orphan. He had some schooling up to the age of eleven years, when he took a notion to see some of the world. He was thrown on his own resources mostly, and while still young saw a great deal of life. He enlisted in 1861, in answer to the first call, in Company E, First Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Col. George Bayard, and served under Fremont in what was commonly known as the Army of Virginia. He was in all the battles after Bull Run fought by the eastern army. His regiment traveled 4,500 miles while in the service, and he was all the way with Sheridan on his raid, and on June 9, 1863, was injured at Brandy Station, receiving a sabre wound in the shoulder. He remained with his company, and during the day was taken prisoner, and escaped three times. The sabre wound proved to be serious, but he still continued with the company until he received his discharge, in December, 1864. He offered to remain with the reorganized company, but exposure and hard fighting had so militated against his health that he was not received.

Returning to the place of his youth, the old home in Lycoming County, Pa., he remained a few months, and in the spring of 1865, being of an active nature, moved westward and located at Denver, Col., where he stopped a short time. There his life as a plainsman and trapper commenced. Mr. Kress passed over what is now Adams County in 1865. The plains seemed to be his home; he loved them and they agreed with him, even as well as did most of his friends and acquaintances. Mr. Kress was a young, active man—few men on the plains were his equal at anything he undertook to do. He had a good, strong constitution and a large amount of native pluck. In following the life of a trapper he traveled all over the western country. In

the spring of 1867 he was through this section of the State and at Thirty-two Mile Creek, the supposed site of the great Indian massacre, was told of a man being found dead there, but states there is no reason to suppose any wholesale slaughter occurred at that place, as is reported. Subsequently he went all over the State, and through Kansas, Colorado, Indian Territory and Texas. In these various localities he mingled with the different tribes of Indians, and became familiar with each language, and was engaged in trading with them a great part of the time. Traffic with the Indians proved to be a business that had some profit, for at times he would accumulate a large amount of money, that was invested in some venture. During his wanderings he found the Republican River to be a good trapping-ground, and located there. While engaged at that business he became acquainted with M. J. Fouts (California Joe), they later hunting and trapping together. In 1869, while looking for some stray mules he had lost, Mr. Kress wandered into Adams County. He admired the country for several reasons; it would give him a home near to his field of action, and as it was necessary to have a home somewhere for the summer months, he concluded to take up a claim in Adams County. He went back and informed his companion of the intention, and they in company came and located claims in Little Blue Township, the claim of Mr. Kress being on what is now Section 13, Township 5, Range 9. It is still owned by him. M. J. Fouts also settled on the same section. At the time of their location there were no settlers in what is now this county. The county took in half of what is now Hall County, and a few men had chosen sites up Thirty-two Mile Creek, in the latter county. After settling, Mr. Kress went to take out his papers for the claim, and found that, aside from Fouts' and his, only two entries had been made, his numbering the fourth in the county. In the winter of 1869 and spring of 1870 Kress built a hewed log-house. He commenced to improve his claim, and in 1870 turned over fifty acres of sod, and had it well stocked. The summer of 1870 he remained on the claim and farmed. In the winter he engaged in trapping on the Republican River. He found it very profitable as well as en-

joyable employment, his yearly income from wolf pelts amounting to a large sum. In the winter, leaving his ranch in charge of a man employed to look after his stock, it was his custom to go to the Republican River, there staying and hunting buffalo, deer, antelope, and trap the wolves, otter, beaver and mink. Some of these trips took him a long way from home. He led the life of a scout and hunter from his first settlement in the county until 1880, sometimes absenting himself from this region a number of months. On one of these occasions he drove from Texas, and never a day passed that he did not see and talk with some of his former acquaintances or border friends. He was scouting on Big Piney Creek when Fort Kearney was built, and assisted in its construction. Mr. Kress acted as scout for Gen. Miles and Gen. McKenzie in 1874.

In the early spring of 1873 the country was aroused by the report that the Indians were coming down to take the life of Wild Bill, who was then at his claim in Little Blue Township, for the shooting of Whistler, the chief of the Sioux. The inhabitants of the county were much alarmed, and some of them threatened to hang Bill if they could find him. All this time Bill was on friendly terms with the Indians, and was in no danger, although circumstances did point rather strongly against him. The story in effect is as follows: In the spring of 1873, Bill was camped on the Republican River trapping, when he fell in with one named Jack Ralston. The latter was a man of good education, and had been on the successful side of life at one time; but becoming too familiar with the bottle, he had chosen to remove to the wild west to reform. Bill took him in and shared his gains with him. One day about the latter part of March, Bill and his companion crossed the river, and while hunting in the timber came upon a dead mule. Shortly after two Indian ponies were found, which they took with them over the river to camp. A few days later, the weather being cold and wet and the two companions having just finished their evening meal, three Indians came into their camp, and asked for food and lodging. Bill offered them the remains of the supper, pancakes, cold meat and coffee. But Ralston being of a somewhat kind nature, wanted to enter-

tain them more royally and give them a hot supper. Bill knew that the supply of coffee and sugar and salt would not last but a few days, and not wishing to run short, differed from him. The difficulty ended in Ralston being kicked out of the camp. He took one of the ponies and went to some of the small trading places in the upper part of the county, and there traded the pony for a plug of tobacco, a square meal and a half gallon of good old whisky, which was too freely imbibed, with the result that he told a very nice story about Bill and himself killing the three Indians who had come into their camp. At about this time Whistler was killed, and one of the ponies proved to be his. Suspicion was naturally attached to Mr. Kress. Ralston could not be found. Kress was not arrested, and the Indians did not make any attempt to kill him. In fact, Snow Flake, who took Whistler's place, thanked him for the favor he supposed he had done him. Mr. Kress was elected or appointed constable in the early days before the county was organized, and served in that capacity while at home.

The first deaths that occurred in Adams County were two parties named Robbins and Lumos, young men who settled in 1870 on the Blue, and the same year were killed by a man alleged to be Jake Haynes. There was no doubt of the fact that Haynes did the work, but he was cleared, and a few weeks later was hung for stealing a mule in Kansas.

In 1873 the first load of grain was taken to Hastings to market—wheat raised by W. S. Mont. Kress had brought wheat into the county for seed, and raised the first crop, though this was not marketed. The first couple who were married after settling in the county were Eben Wright and Susan Gates. Mr. Kress took them to Grand Island on October 10, 1870, where the ceremony was performed. The first marriage in the county proper by a white man was Roderic Lomas and Lila Warwick, married by her father, John Warwick, who also preached the first sermon in Mr. Kress' log house in 1870.

The first birth was a child born to Frank Lucy and wife in the spring of 1870. A man by the name of Cecil started a small general supply store in 1871 on the Blue, in Little Blue Township. Mr.

Kress shot his last buffalo in Adams County in 1873, but up to 1880 continued to hunt in the Republican Valley.

California Joe, or Jerome Fouts, and Mortimer Kress, settled in Adams County in 1864 and 1867, respectively, and on March 5, 1870, located claims in the southeast part of the county, where they remained for about three years when they resumed scouting, but later returned to their lands. In the summer and fall of 1870 there came thither among others—Charles Mont, James Bainter, (referred to in the history of Clay County), Charles Bird, W. S. Mont, J. W. King, Charles and Volney Jones, S. L. Brass, Isaac Stark, the Ballous, and Titus Babcock and others, named in the history of Juniata.

Mr. Fouts, who as stated homesteaded 160 acres on Section 11, of Little Blue Township, was born in Hancock County, Ill., in 1848, the oldest of seven children of David and Emaline (Perry) Fouts, of Pennsylvania and Maine, respectively. The former when a young man located in Illinois, but in 1852 went to California, settling at Cloverdale, whence he removed to Seattle, Wash., his present home, his wife having died in California in 1877. In 1863 Jerome enlisted in the First Nevada Cavalry, took part in the Indian warfare, and after two years and eight months of service was discharged at Camp Douglass, Utah. His subsequent history partakes largely of experiences on the plains; hunting, trapping, fighting the savages, frontier life in all its phases have combined to make him a sturdy son of the West. His wife, formerly Maria Wiswell, has borne six children. As one of Adams' first settlers Mr. Fouts is well and favorably known.

F. M. Lucy, who entered his homestead on the Little Blue, March 5, 1870, claims the honor of being the first homesteader of Adams County. J. R. Carter, of Little Blue, was the third person to settle in Adams County, September, 1870, and his wife, Elizabeth, was the first white woman who ever made a home here. In October they saw their first visitors—two men who stayed with them that night, next day went on their claim and next night were murdered by white murderers—as stated in the reminiscences of Mr. Kress. On the authority of a statement made in February, 1884, by Rev. J. W.

Warwick, it is said that William H. Kress, who resided on Section 10, Township 5, Range 9, was the first settler who died in Adams County and received Christian burial. This occurred in the fall of 1871. Mrs. Eliza (Warwick) Knoll was the first person married here, Rev. Warwick officiating. The first deed recorded in Adams County was that by John and Margaret Stark, to Charles F. Morse, dated October 31, 1871, conveying the northeast quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 11, in consideration of \$500.

The list of personal property owners and polls in the year 1872, with the amount of assessment in each case, is as follows: Edwin M. Allen; * E. N. Adams, \$125; Pliny Allen, \$150; Paul Abney, \$175; Louis Abney, \$140; Adna H. Bowen, assessed \$1,800 for 120 lots at Juniata, and Titus Babcock, \$15 for one lot, the tax per lot being \$2.79; C. C. and R. D. Babcock, four lots and other property valued at \$510; Titus Babcock, \$200; Peter H. Babcock, \$200; Austin Banker; * John W. Bradner; * William Bahl; * George Beaman, \$175; Stephen B. Bonfield, \$125; H. H. Ballou, \$95; Judson Burwell, \$130; G. W. Briggs, \$350; Nathan L. Brass, \$165; Samuel L. Brass (128 lots at Juniata were assessed \$15 each, yielding a tax of \$2.79), \$75; Charles Bird, \$125; James Beasley, \$200; J. H. Bachman, \$165; Andrew Clute, \$150; John S. Chandler, \$210; Charles M. Cranson; * John Clarkson, \$125; George Carr, \$50; James Carr, \$5; W. W. Camp, \$140; C. H. Chapman, \$510; I. R. Carter, \$246; John B. Cecil, \$316; Jacob Calhoun, \$228; H. A. DeWolf; * H. A. Dean, \$10; William Derrick, \$5; Ira G. Dillon, \$50; R. K. Daily, \$601; James Donaldson, \$5; P. Duncan, \$390; F. Ernest, \$255; G. Edgerton, \$800; Thomas Fleming, \$234; Wilkinson Farrar, \$200; William Gardner, \$5; A. T. Gales, \$383; J. T. Gault, \$210; S. P. Howland, \$50; John Hurston; * N. B. Hamp, \$110; Joseph Hopkins, \$20; J. H. Hummel, \$105; William A. Henderson & Co., \$400; George Henderson, \$150; Orland Hudson; * John Huston, \$240; Joseph Horgan, \$20; Simeon Johnson, \$105; William J. Jones & Co., \$190; J. M. Jacobson, \$700, and one lot at Juniata; Thomas

* Amount not known.

Johnson; * J. W. Keatley, \$75; Charles Kilburn; * E. S. Knapp, \$120; W. L. Kemp, \$155; William Kelley, \$225; L. G. King, \$185; Lewis Keith, \$320; William Kress, \$280; George Kuder, \$5; R. S. Langley, \$135; M. C. Lindsey; * William Lawden, \$125; F. Lenbye, \$10; John G. Moore, \$125; Walter Mecklin, \$50; Isaac Mattie, \$260; John M. Meyer, \$50; Clark S. Morrison; * Henry McKelva, \$20; D. Monroe, Jr.; * M. McKenzie; * Joseph Mecklin, \$245; James McCleary, \$35; H. B. Munson, \$445; W. S. Moote, \$178; A. T. Matheson; * Charles Muntz, \$20; Robert Mason, \$110; John Avery, \$288; H. J. Parkin, \$145; John Plank, \$140; N. G. Platt; * C. Peters, \$75; Albert D. Rust; * George Robbins, \$175; Oliver C. Rogers, \$180; J. W. Roby, \$180; B. E. Swift, \$20; Ezra Shaw; * Henry Skinner, \$105; Jacob A. Swift, \$130; D. E. Salisbury, \$55; Frank Salisbury, \$55; Isaac W. Stark, \$140; John Stark, \$95; Menzo Snyder; * John Skinner, \$125; William Stenhouse; * James H. Sweeting, \$75; Isaiah Sluyter, \$25; Simeon Sinclair; * James Sinclair; * W. W. Sellick, \$282; A. M. Schem; * John F. Shafer, \$423; Milton Scott, \$722; Edmund Spelckner, \$125; A. M. Suckett; * B. H. Scott; * Thomas Tisit, \$50; Thomas B. Wilks; * George Wilks; * Robert Wright; * William White; * Thomas E. Watts, \$125; Amos Wetherby, \$5; E. Wyatt; * Eben Wright, \$95; D. L. Winters, \$206; C. W. Wilson, \$260; W. M. West, \$861; John Woods, \$160; M. Wilson, \$35; William Wallace, \$125; and John Yager, \$150.

Lots were assessed at \$15 each, and a tax of \$2.79 levied on each lot. A poll tax of \$2.00 on each male inhabitant of legal age was also levied, and the dog tax amounted to \$54, the total tax on personal property levied being \$978.06.

Charles F. Morse's 1,063 lots in Juniata village were assessed \$15,945, and his 308 acres in Section 12, Township 7, Range 11, \$6,160, on which amounts a tax of \$1,658.06 was levied.

The acreage of Burlington & Missouri River Railroad lands was 105,423, valued at \$3,200 per 640 acres, and assessed at \$74.40 per section. The Union Pacific Company claimed 72,270 acres in this

county, valued and taxed the same as the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad lands.

In 1873 the Eastern Land Association's lots at Juniata were assessed at \$10 each and a levy of \$4.05½ cents made on each. The lots were assessed to Morse in 1872. The Association's lots at old Inland numbered 528, assessed at \$3 each, on which a tax of \$1.35 each was levied. At Kenesaw the same association had 334 lots, valued at \$3 each, on which a tax of \$1.24 each was levied. The Hastings Town Company's lots were assessed for the first time in 1873. Their thirty-three blocks containing about 500 lots were assessed variously, also 16½ sections in Township 5, Range 9, and 721 miles of railroad in Denver precinct.

Personal property was first assessed in Silver Lake, as a precinct, in 1874. Among the names of tax-payers that year are S. E. Blesh, J. M. Blackledge, N. D. Blackley, E. M. Beach, J. R. Chapman, M. V. Hatfield, A. and R. Hohlfeld, W. S. Milner, Jacob Morgan, Benj. Morgan, J. B. Roscoe, W. W. Phillee, W. H. Shaw, J. D. Van Houten, H. A. Wilson, J. C. Wilson, John Wade, Henry Wade and Daniel Wilson.

In Juniata precinct in 1874 were the persons named in the list of 1872 with J. R. Royce, James Laird, A. H. Brown & Brother, W. S. Bonebrake, J. P. Conger, Fred Cook, John Corven, T. N. Crittenden, James Clark, W. B. Cushing, William Calter, William Doolittle, George Demster, William Derrick, Hilbry Dean, D. L. Eagle, Peter Fowle, Sam Fancher, W. H. Gardner, Harris, Freeman & Co., F. Henry, E. A. Haselton, F. H. Hall, D. H. Holmes, William and Ned Hodgson, Ransom House, T. I. Howard, George Henderson, Niles Johnson, C. R. Jones, M. B. Kelley, T. and W. L. Kemp, Peter Lawson, Larkin Brothers, J. G. Moore, C. B. and W. A. Moorehouse, James Norrish, William Norton, James Patterson, Orlando Stiver, J. H. and W. Skinner, S. J. Shuley, J. E. Smith, William Tivedale, Job Tanner, Myron Van Fleet, A. E. Wells, W. H. White, William Woolman, I. D. Wadsworth, Ezra Warren and R. Wood.

The persons assessed in Kenesaw in 1874 were E. N. Adams, C. D. Bennett, James Cockley, L. Cline, S. M. and G. J. Holman, S. K. and H. C.

* Amount not known.

Humbert, Josiah Hodges, John S. Jewell, John Kent, Oscar Kent, M. W. Knapp, E. H. Macklin, Samuel Min, Miller & Knapp, W. Parmenter, C. Peters, J. T. Raglan, James H. Rockafellow, G. L. and J. W. Stine, O. W. and F. B. Spellman, David Shattuck, George Spindler, G. B. Staples, William Shultz, F. R. Staples, W. L. Stark, John Vannen Kirk, E. J. Willis, W. T. Wright, A. D. Williams, T. G. Whiting and I. W. Worsley.

On November 1, 1873, a party of four Indians visited L. G. King's house, at Kingston, and took formal possession. King went for help and returning found the red men in his bed. Ordering them to leave, they resisted, but King put Texas Jim out. Another Indian leveled his revolver at Abbott and Mason, but looking into the muzzles of their rifles did not carry the threat further. A party of settlers, headed by J. M. Bird, drove the few aborigines out of the county.

The first Fourth of July celebration at Juniata was held in 1873. Col. E. M. Allen presided. The vice-presidents were R. H. Crane (Rev.), James Morrish, L. P. Hawley, of Juniata; Charles Clutz, F. S. Wells, V. S. James, of Denver; I. A. Matlick, E. G. Knapp, E. J. Willis, of Kenesaw; W. W. Selleck, I. J. Draper and C. G. Wilson, of Little Blue; B. H. Scott, J. J. Hoyleman, R. K. Daily,

of Silver Lake. Miss Rosa Kelley was reader; R. S. Langley, marshal; Rev. A. D. Williams, chaplain, and James Laird, orator. The *fete* at Hastings was attended by 1,500 people.

The Adams County Old Settlers' Association was organized at Ayr, August 14, 1886, with M. N. Kress, of Ayr, president; Gen. A. H. Bowen, of Hastings, vice-president; Isaac Le Doiyt, of Hastings, secretary and historian, and George F. Brown, of Juniata, treasurer. The assistant secretaries elected were R. S. Spicknall, of Silver Lake; W. W. Philleo, of Zero; J. C. Woodworth, of Ayr; W. P. Davis, of Roseland; S. L. Martin, of Cottonwood; John Shellhamer, of Logan; John Overy, Little Blue; M. E. Palmer, West Blue; William Brown, Highland; E. J. Hanchett, Verona; L. A. Boley, Kenesaw; Israel Spindler, Wanda; A. H. Brown, Denver; H. B. McGaw, Blaine; John Jung, Hanover, and S. L. Brass, Juniata. A. H. Bowen, A. H. Brown and A. L. Wigton were appointed a committee to prepare a constitution and set of by-laws.

The Poweshiek (Iowa) County Association was organized at Hastings in June, 1888, with M. K. Lewis, president; C. F. Royce, secretary; L. B. Palmer, treasurer; W. A. Chapman, L. A. Royce, A. L. Wigton, Mrs. L. B. Palmer and Mrs. Wigton, members of executive committee.



CHAPTER XIII.

ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY—BOUNDARIES—TRANSACTIONS OF COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERVISORS—COUNTY SEAT
WAR—COURT AFFAIRS—TERMS FROM MAY, 1873, TO JANUARY, 1890—IMPORTANT CRIMINAL
CASES—NUMEROUS MURDERS, ETC.—DEFALCATION.

Laws do not put the least restraint
Upon our freedom, but maintain 't.—*Butler.*



THE county of Adams was established under the act approved February 16, 1867, within the following described boundaries: From the point where the east line of Range 9 west crosses the

Platte; thence up the river channel to the intersection of the west line of Range 12; thence south to southwest corner of Township 5, Range 12; thence east to southeast corner of Township 5, Range 9, and north to place of beginning. It was a piece of legislation common to the times, as was that of Pennsylvania in the first decade

of the century. Establishing a county where two or three persons resided was so strange in itself that the legislators themselves were willing to forget their acts, and in this instance the act of February 16, 1867, "fell into innocuous desuetude," and the county within these boundaries was formed.

On November 7, 1871, Acting Governor James, responding to a petition presented by the few residents of Adams, ordered the county to be organized for judicial and executive purposes, fixing the day of election on December 12, following. As told in the political chapter, this election was held and the chosen officers duly qualified.

The first regular meeting of the county commissioners was called for January 2, 1872, but Commissioner W. W. Selleck being the only official present, an adjournment to January 16 was ordered. The record is signed by Titus Babcock, deputy county clerk. The adjourned meeting was duly held, W. W. Selleck and Samuel L. Brass being present. The county was divided into three commissioners' districts—the first of which comprised Township 5, in Ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12, and the two southern tiers of sections in Township 6. Wellington W. Selleck represented this district on the board. District No. 2 comprised that portion of the county north of district No. 1, and west of the line between Ranges 10 and 11, with Edwin M. Allen representative on the board; while district No. 3 comprised all the territory in Adams north of district No. 1 and east of the line between Ranges 10 and 11. Samuel L. Brass was representative. The county was subdivided into seven road districts, No. 1 being Townships 5 and 6 in Range 9, with Eben Wright, supervisor; No. 2, Townships 7 and 8 in Range 9, Volney Jones; No. 3, Townships 5 and 6 in Range 10, L. G. King; No. 4, Townships 7 and 8 in Range 10, John M. Myer; No. 5, Townships 5 and 6 in Range 11, R. K. Daily; No. 6, Townships 7 and 8 in Range 11, Pliny Allen, and No. 7, Townships 5, 6, 7 and 8, in Range 12, with James H. Sweeting supervisor. Accounts aggregating \$74 were allowed—McNally & Co. receiving \$12 for seats; A. H. Bowen \$17 for

registration; T. Babcock \$25.15 for rent and fuel and \$4 for election expenses; R. D. Babcock, \$2; Simeon Johnson, \$2, and Judson Burwell, \$2 for election expenses. A day later \$2 was allowed I. W. Stark for election expenses.

The salary of the county clerk (R. D. Babcock) was fixed at \$150 per annum (raised on January 30, to \$300); of county commissioners, \$3 per day for time actually employed and legal mileage, and of probate judge, \$75. On January 17 a building for county offices was ordered to be erected within ten days, and the sheriff authorized to advertise for proposals for building a house 20 feet long, 16 feet wide and 8 feet high between joists, with rafters coming down to upper joists, frame of pine lumber, boarded and battened on outside, shingle roof, four windows, one door, one matched floor and ceiled overhead with building paper. The building was to be finished ten days after the sale of contract, material was to be furnished by the commissioners, except door and window frames and case. The payment was to be made by county warrant, drawing 10 per cent until paid. Joseph Stuhl bought this contract for \$30. S. L. Brass was building superintendent.

The county treasurer was authorized to take possession of any books formerly obtained for Adams County, and give to the holder his receipt therefor. On the 18th C. C. Babcock was allowed for printing 200 county orders the sum of \$2. On January 29 a meeting to approve treasurer's bond was held; but owing to J. S. Chandler, the treasurer-elect, handing in his resignation, the subject was postponed until the 30th when George Henderson was appointed, but S. L. Brass was ordered to act as temporary treasurer. An order for blank books was given to Acres, Blackman & Co. through C. L. Wundt. On January 31 Thomas C. Fleming was appointed county surveyor, owing to failure to elect such officer. On February 15, 1872, Deputy Sheriff Hummel produced H. H. Ballou, overseer of the poor, who stated he employed Dr. Laine to amputate the feet of a county charge. The Doctor presented a bill for \$150, but the wily commissioners allowed only half that sum. H. H. Ballou resigned the office of justice, and A. D. Rust was appointed.

Treasurer Henderson qualified February 15, and received \$94.84 from temporary Treasurer Brass; \$872.50 bank certificate, and cancelled warrants for \$255.15, or \$1,222. R. K. Dailey resigned as road supervisor, and Charles Wilson appointed to that office. On the 16th the report of Commissioner Selleck on the indebtedness of other counties to Adams pointed out the sum of \$3,370.11 collected by Hamilton County in Adams from 1867 to 1870 inclusive, of which \$927.90 was paid out for State taxes; \$243.28 collection fees to attorney; \$12.50 clerk's fees; \$14.08, treasurer's fees, and \$29.86 assessor's charges, a total expenditure of \$1,227.62; but owing to accounts in the hands of Attorney A. H. Bowen the actual amount could not be ascertained. This report was adopted. The sheriff was ordered to proceed to Hamilton County and notify said county that the funds belonging to Adams, paid to A. H. Bowen, was done without authority, and that Hamilton County would be held responsible for \$883.43, which A. H. Bowen refused to pay. Commissioner Selleck also reported on moneys due by Fillmore and Saline Counties, and obtained the tax lists of Adams and Kearney Counties. He expressed his belief in the statement that Saline County owed Adams County about \$8,000 of back taxes. The board ordered the employment of an attorney to collect from Saline. The lists for Adams and Kearney for 1871 were placed in the hands of the treasurer. During this session the commissioners resolved themselves into a committee of the whole to select a site for poor farm and buildings, and S. L. Brass was specially appointed to confer with the owners of the town site of Juniata in the matter of obtaining a donation of twenty acres for such purpose. Jacobson's charge of malfeasance was read before the board February 17, 1872, and A. H. Bowen was cited to answer the charge. Accounts aggregating \$259.01 were ordered to be paid.

On February 27, 1872, a resolution by Commissioner Brass gives to the money trouble of the period another complexion; showing that Deputy Clerk Babcock issued to A. H. Bowen an order, duly sealed, to receive Adams County funds from Hamilton. His motion to concur in the transaction was adopted. Immediately after the adoption of this

resolution O. A. Abbott, agent of Hall County, presented the claims of that new county against Adams for taxes collected in 1870 and prior years; but in response, heard the resolution of Commissioner Brass, asking for the employment of the best counsel in the State to consider Hall County's claim. On February 28, Isaac W. Stark, superintendent of schools, presented his complaint against A. H. Bowen. Jacobson's charge was withdrawn, and on February 29, the other charges against him were dismissed by the commissioners, owing to the fact that a copy of the complaint was not furnished to him with the citation. At this time Commissioner Allen moved that a license fee of \$200 per annum be adopted, while Selleck wanted it fixed at \$300. The lower figures were adopted. The attack by A. H. Bowen, made in the Gazette, was denounced by the board, and a resolution ordering the assessment of the Union Pacific lands in the county adopted. In March, 1872, Kearney County was set apart as a distinct precinct for revenue purposes only, and Adams County was divided into two precincts—No. 1 comprising all the county north of an east and west line from the southeast corner of Section 12, Township 6 north, Range 9 west, to the northwest corner of Section 7, Township 6, Range 12. District No. 2 comprised all the county south of such line. The first was named "Juniata Precinct," and the second "Little Blue Precinct."

The removal of the court house to lot 551, without expense to the county, was ordered to be carried out under the direction of Commissioner Brass. Mr. Brass on this occasion proposed that the charge of embezzlement preferred by the State against Adna H. Bowen should not be further prosecuted. This proposition was adopted. Abbott and Thummel, attorneys for Hall County, were notified that the commissioners of Adams did not consider the county indebted to Hall County, and refused to pay any of the money received from Hamilton County. In April, ten road districts were established. On April 4, the commissioners selected Section 2, Township 6, Range 11, for poor farm purposes, and its acquisition by preemption or otherwise ordered. The commissioners appointed to locate roads were offered a compensation of \$2 for every ten miles of

road laid out by them, and the salary of the probate judge was increased from \$75 to \$100 per annum. The request for \$75,000 aid to the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad was presented April 17, by E. E. Brown, and a special election on the subject was ordered. On April 30, a proposition to buy some quarter sections from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was favorably received; Commissioner Allen was authorized to move the court house at an expense of \$10. He performed this work, and, with the original grant, \$29.78 for repairs. The license for sale of liquor was increased to \$300 in May, 1872. In July Treasurer Henderson resigned and Ira G. Dillon was appointed to fill the vacancy. The amount of State taxes to be levied in 1872 was 5½ mills or \$5,503.61; general fund, including support of poor, \$4,785.76 at 5 mills on the dollar; road and land fund, \$4 on each quarter section; poll tax, \$2 on each poll; sinking fund, 2½ mills; bridge tax, 5 mills; school tax, \$905.75 in district No. 1; \$144 in No. 2; \$300 in No. 9; \$870 in No. 12; \$650 in No. 16, and \$175 in No. 17. The total valuation was \$957,153.

The valuation of Kearney County was \$722,736, on which a State, general and poor, land, road and poll tax were collected, the rates being the same as in Adams County. No bridge or school tax is recorded. The south ½ of Section 1, Township 6, Range 11, was purchased from the Burlington & Missouri Company at this time for the purposes of a poor farm. A junketing expedition was subsequently, in July, organized; when the commissioners proceeded in a body to locate a bridge over Thirty-two Mile Creek. The expense of this expedition, it is alleged, was much heavier than that of the bridge subsequently built. After this resolution was adopted the clerk presented thirty-two wolf scalps and one wild cat scalp, which were ordered to be destroyed. An election on the question of granting \$6,000 aid toward the building of a steam grist-mill, at Juniata, was ordered to be held at the time of holding general election. In July, 1872, the balance due by Adams and Kearney Counties to Fillmore was fixed at \$45.25, and by Adams to Kearney at \$934.68. In August the board advertised for proposals to build a poor house 16x24 feet,

and one and one-half stories high, and appointed Peter Fowle poor-master at \$25 per month. Ira G. Dillon's proposal to erect the poor house for \$1,400 was accepted. On October 9, 1872, Township 7 and 8, Range 12, the west tier of sections in Townships 7 and 8, Range 11; the north tier of sections in Townships 6, Range 12, and Section 6, Township 6, in Range 12, were set off to form the precinct of Kenesaw, while Townships 7 and 8, Range 9, the north tier of sections in Township 6, Range 9, Sections 1 and 2 in Township 6, Range 10, and the two eastern tiers of sections in Townships 7 and 8, Range 10, set off under the title of Denver precinct.

Silver Lake precinct was established October 9, 1872, within the following described lines: The west half of Townships 5 and 6, Range 10, except the north tier of sections in Townships 6, all of Township 5, in Ranges 11 and 12, and Township 6 in the same ranges, except the north tier of sections in Township 6, in each range. During the month of October H. L. Clark's proposition to erect Queen Truss wooden bridges over the Little Blue and Thirty-two Mile Creek for \$1,795, was received and acquiesced in. Poor-master Fowle reported six poor persons as charges on the county on November 1, 1872, and on the 4th took possession of the new poor house, but from December 5 to the close of the year there were none chargeable to the county. In January the board asked the representatives in House and Senate to introduce a bill, making all section lines in Adams County public roads. The subject of purchasing artificial feet for Peter Fowle was then discussed; but the opinion of the county attorney and the law set aside the good intentions of the commissioners toward him.

In January, 1873, the State land commissioner was petitioned to place the school sections of the county on the market; the salary of the clerk was placed at \$300; of the probate judge, \$100; of the superintendent of schools, \$4 per day while on duty, and of the poor-master \$25 per month, and in February R. S. Langley was appointed sheriff, *vice* Haselton resigned. The question of increasing license fee was discussed in March and the amount raised to \$400. Charles Kohl was granted a license for Hastings village at this time. In April W. H.

Martin, R. R. Crane and George Kuder were appointed commissioners to appraise the school lands of Adams County. A statement by Treasurer W. M. West per the deputy treasurer, Peter Fowle, was presented to the board in May. This showed a balance of \$534.78 on December 2, 1872, and \$2,128.65 received from that period to May 5, 1873. Of this total (\$2,663.43) there was \$1,418.59 expended. In July the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company asked damages by reason of loss sustained through the act of the Legislature in setting off section lines for road purposes. The board appointed Ira G. Dillon, Eli B. Dailey and William L. Kemp assessors in the matter. D. S. Cole petitioned for the erection of a temporary jail. This was granted and the question of tax levy for 1873 considered. The levy ordered for State tax was \$6,-738.90; for county tax, \$29,238.60 and for poll tax, \$2 per poll. In Juniata, \$600 interest on gristmill bonds was authorized; while the direct school tax was as follows: District No. 1, \$1,300; Nos. 2 and 3, 10 mills on the dollar and \$400; No. 4, \$340; No. 5, 10 mills on the dollar; No. 19, 13 mills on the dollar; No. 10, 40 mills on the dollar; No. 12, \$465; No. 13, \$438; No. 14, \$600; No. 16, 10 mills on the dollar and \$170; No. 17, \$2,900; No. 18, \$2,000; No. 19, \$370; No. 21, 25 mills on the dollar; No. 22, 15 mills on the dollar; No. 23, \$285; No. 24, \$670; No. 25, \$600; No. 28, \$200; No. 31, \$945; No. 32, \$350; No. 33, \$500; No. 34, \$200, and No. 35, \$300. Prof. A. D. Williams, the immigration agent for Adams County, was granted the use of room in the court house at Juniata. A petition signed by Simon Rankins and 327 other citizens and a remonstrance signed by C. H. Chapman and 201 citizens, on the question of county seat removal, were received, but not granted. James Laird, agent of the Eastern Land Association, asked for the vacation of streets and alleys in the villages of Kenesaw and Inland, and commissioners were appointed to report upon the justice of the demand. Such reports were favorable to the petitioners in each case and the vacation was ordered. On January 5, 1874, A. H. Cramer signed the record as clerk and the salary was placed at \$400. Charges against Peter Fowle were not sustained by the board—the ill-treatment of a horse being the

only evidence of any carelessness by the poor-master.

In February A. H. Cramer was named as member of the Centennial Board for Adams County. Letters from James Beach, A. C. Wright, E. W. Morse, N. D. Blakely, M. B. Kelley, George Robbins, S. B. Webb and J. C. Woodworth, asking to be appointed poor-master, *vice* Fowle, were received, and Kelley appointed. An election ordered on the questions of granting \$45,000 aid to the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad, and on issuing bonds to cover indebtedness of the county on May 1, 1874, amounting to about \$22,120.98. In June a meeting held at Juniata adopted resolutions in favor of the erection of county buildings at that point, and the use of the sinking fund for that purpose. A. H. Bowen, E. M. Allen and B. F. Smith formed the committee appointed by this meeting to present the matter to the board. This body took prompt action and asked for plans and specifications for a building, the cost of which was not to exceed \$15,000. On June 30, a remonstrance against such action was presented by Frank Sears and eighty-eight others; but it had not the power expected and the bid of D. H. Freeman (\$14,000) was accepted, but the authority of the commissioners in the matter was questioned and the subject referred to Judge Gantt. The contract was set aside later and again petition and remonstrance on the vexatious re-location subject claimed the attention of the board—a petition of 584 praying for re-location and a remonstrance of 349 against the proposition being the signals of war. A number of persons withdrew their names from the former petition, and the commissioners taking cognizance of the remonstrance denied an election on the subject. In February, 1875, C. C. and R. D. Babcock, of the Gazette, and R. A. Dague, of the Journal, proposed to print the transactions of the commissioners, as officially reported by the county clerk, at five cents per line for both papers or two and a half cents per line in fact. A second proposition was \$125 per annum to each newspaper for publishing the official reports.

On March 5, 1875, the "troublesome question" was resurrected. A petition by J. L. Parrott and 491 other citizens asking for an election "On Re-

location of County Seat" was granted, and April 1, 1875, fixed as the day of voting. Fifteen per centum of the amount of taxes recovered for this county *in re* Union Pacific Company *vs.* McShane and others, was adjusted and settled as attorneys' fees and expenses due to Bowen, Laird, Briggs and Cowin as counsel fees as decreed by the court. In May, E. C. Shellhamer's charge of neglect of duty and partiality in office was preferred against A. H. Cramer.

In July the assessed value of Adams County was fixed at \$1,160,529, on which a State tax of 7 7-20 mills was levied, and a county tax of 17 1-2 mills. The \$2 poll tax yielded \$1,566, while the \$1 tax on dogs and \$2 tax on female dogs was not estimated. The direct school tax by districts was \$19,338. The road tax ranged from 5 to 25 mills on the dollar. Denver's bond interest tax was \$2,660, and Juniata's interest and principal on bonds, \$800. W. W. McDonald was poor-master in 1876, and N. F. Chamberlain builder of addition to house. In the fall of 1875 road and bridge construction assumed large proportions, and a few iron bridges were erected. In February, 1876, a petition was read from S. Alexander and other citizens asking the board to employ Abbott & Batty to prosecute the case of Charles H. Paul *ex. rel.* *vs.* William B. Thorne *et al.*, for the purpose of cancelling and destroying bonds of Denver Township (\$33,250) issued in May, 1874, to aid in building the Hastings & Grand Island Railroad. The board granted this prayer.

The valuation in 1876 was \$1,048,913.60, on which 7 7-20 mills were levied for State tax, and 18 mills for county tax, with a \$2 poll tax and \$1 and \$2 dog tax. A 70-mill and 110-mill school tax marked school affairs in a few districts.

In March, 1877, "the troublesome question" came again before the board, when a petition signed by 635 citizens was considered, and an election ordered to be held April 9, 1877. On that date 844 votes were cast in favor of location at Hastings, and 535 for Juniata; and on April 30 Commissioners A. D. Yocum, Moore and Ratcliff declared Hastings the future seat of justice. In October a petition asking for township organization was presented, and a

vote on the question ordered to be taken in November. In March, 1878, the petition for the incorporation of Juniata was returned, as it bore the names of many non-residents. The issue of bonds to the Republican Valley Railroad Company was considered at this time, as related in the history of railroads and in the political chapter. In May, 1879, the commissioners met at Hastings. Dr. William H. Lynn, who acted as the first medical employe of the county in 1872, offered his services as county physician for \$390 per annum. This offer was accepted by the commissioners. In July John M. Ragan was appointed county attorney at a salary of \$400. The tax levy authorized on the assessed valuation of \$1,734,848 was 6 mills for State, and 20 5-8 mills for county purposes. A poll tax does not seem to have been levied this year; but the \$1 and \$2 dogs did not escape justice. The special district and precinct taxes were light compared with 1878, and the school taxes insignificant except in districts 35, 33 and 29, the rate being 50 mills in the first, and 30 mills in the two last numbered districts. The general statement of W. B. Thorne of disbursements from January 1, 1874, to May 1, 1879, was presented in July. This showed \$173,943.16 disbursed; \$30,178 balance, and \$67,930.36 due by delinquents. The total receipts amounted to \$203,583.62, and \$537.86 balance in treasury January 1, 1874.

The detailed statement points out liabilities in excess of assets amounting to \$41,183.68, and about \$13,000 doubtful tax, or total liabilities in excess of assets \$54,183.68.*

In September, 1879, township or precinct boundaries were subjected to change in two instances. Little Blue was established within the lines of Townships 5 and 6, in Range 9. Pawnee was changed to Ayr, and established within the lines of Townships 5 and 6, in Range 10.

The funding debt proposition was made on September 27, 1879, when the people were asked to vote

for the issue of \$70,000 bonds, payable in ten annual installments of \$7,000 each, the last due on January 1, 1900, and the first on January 1, 1891.

The petition of H. A. Moreland, Joseph A. Robertson and sixty-two others, for the incorporation of Juniata town, was presented June 15, 1880, and granted. Ira G. Dillon, S. L. Brass, H. E. Wells, E. M. Allen and L. F. Picard were named as trustees.

In January, 1880, Timothy May was chosen superintendent of the Adams County Infirmary. In June Dr. Lynn was re-appointed physician; John M. Ragan, attorney, while the county printing was awarded to the Gazette, Journal, Herald and Nebraskan, three months being the term for each in the order given. In December the examination of Treasurer Thorne's account was carried on; but at the close a petition against the reception of his statement or warrants until the law would be fully complied with. Saxon & Moulton represented William Kerr, A. L. Clarke & Co. and C. N. Paine & Co., who signed petition No. 1; while petition No. 2 was signed by twenty-two citizens.

On January 5, 1881, Treasurer Thorne's statement of receipts and disbursements from May 1, 1879, to October 1, 1880, was presented by Peter Fowlie, then and for some time previous deputy treasurer. He showed \$30,123.37 on hands May 1, 1879, and \$106,313.08 collected within the time given, or a total of \$136,436.45. The amount reported paid out was \$100,530.55, and balance on hand \$35,905, with \$69,096.87 delinquent. The commissioners appeared to agree with this statement, but postponed final settlement until some vouchers in controversy were received or rejected. On January 25 the board assembled as a court of trial and investigation. B. F. Smith, O. B. Hewett, A. T. Ash and John M. Abbott, of counsel for the treasurer; Messrs. Saxon, Moulton, R. H. Mills and R. A. Batty, of counsel for S. Alexander; A. L. Clarke and others, petitioners with John M. Ragan, for the county, were present. The treasurer's counsel urged final settlement and the postponement of the inquiry into the charges of January 25; but the motion was overruled, as were several other motions, between January 25, when the trial

* The question of the issue of 7 per cent bonds for \$50,000 for funding the county indebtedness, and that relating to the sale of Lot 688 at Juniata, were submitted to a vote in November, 1879. At this time county warrants were selling from seventy-five to eighty-five cents, so that the funding of the debt became imperative. The funding proposition was defeated.

commenced, and February 1, when counsel for the treasurer denied the authority of the commissioners to obtain a new or additional bond for \$25,000 from the treasurer in addition to the \$15,000 bond already given. On March 10, however, this bond was approved; on March 12 he resigned, and Emanuel Steinau was appointed treasurer, and on the 16th the ex-treasurer was ordered to turn over all property, moneys and amount of deficiency to the commissioners.

In December, 1881, the clerk was instructed to receive from the trustees of the assets of Ex-Treasurer Thorne, the full amount of county certificates and warrants drawn thereon, and credit same to the deficiency account of the several funds. On March 28, 1881, the county clerk was ordered to advertise for rooms for county offices, and secure a lease for same. Propositions from C. N. Paine & Co., to erect a brick building or provide a suitable building; from Farrell & Mowery to erect a stone building 100x44 feet, and one from George W. Mowery to erect a similar building on Lots 7 and 8, Block 24, were received. Then follows the protest by A. B. Ideson; but it did not prevail, and Mowery's bid was accepted, which provided for a lease of five years at a consideration of \$1,000 per annum.

The Thorne assets as applied in 1881 show \$87.42 to Denver precinct bond fund; \$779.83 to State general fund; \$98.35 to State sinking fund; \$188.18 to State school fund; \$72.91 to State University fund; \$3.34 to penitentiary fund; \$21.84 to State asylum fund; \$141.45 to county judgment fund; \$2,108.41 to district school fund; \$2,165.09 to school bond fund; \$726.66 to school judgment fund; \$1.51 to poll and labor tax; \$40.39 to Juniata mill bond fund; \$5.80 to Hastings City; \$4.40 to Juniata village; and \$130.27 to miscellaneous fund. The receipts from Ex-Treasurer Thorne's assets up to January 11, 1882, amounted to \$8,141.59, of which \$8,082.05 were distributed as above. On October 13, 1882, the commissioners agreed with C. R. Jones and A. L. Clarke, trustees of the Thorne assets, to pay the latter 5 per cent on the moneys collected and paid to the county by said trustees including the audited claims.

In January, 1882, William S. Crow qualified as

treasurer. On June 2 the question of issuing bonds for \$65,000, to fund the indebtedness of the county, was received, and an election ordered to be held July 8.

The collections and balances for 1883 up to July 9, amounted to \$89,649.91, the balance on January 1 being \$18,710.69.

In November, 1883, the vote on the question of township organization was taken, and a number of vouchers received in reduction of Thorne's deficiency. The last meeting of the last board of county commissioners was held November 20, 1883, their final act being the granting of a contract for building the approaches to Silver Lake bridge, to W. D. Young. H. C. Armstrong was president at this time, with G. H. Edgerton and A. V. Cole associate commissioners, and R. B. Tussey, clerk. They adjourned *sine die*, the clerk closing the record book before the ink, used in writing his signature, was dry.

The new era of government by township supervisors was introduced November 21, 1883, with H. C. Minnix, M. A. Hargleroad, W. G. Parmenter, J. H. Spicer, S. M. Frink, George Crane, W. R. McCully, Henry Stammer and E. G. Dyer present. Owing to the county judge not being present to approve bonds, the meeting was adjourned. Supervisor Dyer refused to serve and H. P. Rowe was appointed by the clerk to represent Ayr. W. R. McCully was chosen first president of the board. On the 26th George Crane was present, with the officers named, the other supervisors, named in elections of 1883, being absent.

The petition of Moses Van Buskirk and others, residents of Kenesaw village, for incorporation, was rejected for the reason that a majority of the resident tax-payers of the village did not sign the document. On December 13 John M. Ragan resigned the office of county attorney, and O. B. Hewett was appointed to fill the office until January. A petition signed by R. D. Babcock and 115 others asked that L. J. Capps be appointed attorney for the county; but the petition was ordered to be placed on file. On January 9, 1884, the salary of superintendent of schools was placed at \$800. On this date the establishment of

townships was considered. West Blue was established within the territory of Township 8 in Ranges 9 and 10; Denver, Township 7 in Ranges 9 and 10, except the city of Hastings; Little Blue, Townships 5 and 6 in Range 9; Ayr, Townships 5 and 6 in Range 10; Silver Lake, Township 5 in Ranges 11 and 12; Cottonwood, Township 6 in Ranges 11 and 12; Juniata, Townships 7 and 8 in Range 11, and Kenesaw, Townships 7 and 8 in Range 12.

The name of James Reed appears on the roll of supervisors in June, 1884, Supervisor Crane, of Denver, having previously resigned. The claim of \$1,000 against Juniata precinct by Batty & Ragan, who represented the precinct in the law affairs growing out of the issue of \$6,000 mill bonds in 1872, was mentioned at this session. Their petition prayed for the levy of a tax on the residents within the old precinct of 1872, sufficient to meet this indebtedness.

In January, 1885, J. H. Spicer, of Juniata; George Crafford, of Zero, and E. L. Dutton, of Kenesaw, were appointed to fill vacancies on the board. H. C. Minnix was chosen president *pro tem*, and on the 13th J. H. Spicer was elected permanent president. W. R. McCully was admitted to a seat as supervisor of Hastings, L. J. Capps was appointed county attorney, and the salaries of clerk, deputy and assistant deputy were fixed, so as not to exceed the fees collected during the year 1885. Amos Shattuck was elected permanent president for 1886. The transactions of the last few years are of the character of former years, but of much larger proportions. The members of the board of supervisors are named in the political chapter, and all propositions submitted to the people by them, and the vote on such propositions given in that chapter. The issue of court-house bonds was the most important transaction. The bonds sold for \$77,500. Treasurer Paul received two-thirds of that sum, \$51,666.50, and a certified check for the balance, \$25,833.50, December 24, 1889. It has been a good transaction all round, and the county officers taking part in it are entitled to commendation for their prudence, caution and successful management of the affair. In January, 1890, warrants were paid by Treasurer Paul on presentation, this being the first time in the county's

history that such an agreeable state of financial affairs has existed.

From that day in 1872 when Messrs. Farrell & Co. dedicated a spot of the prairie to the uses of civilization under the name of Hastings, the villagers looked longingly westward, coveting the honors of the seat of justice and inwardly determining to have those honors. In May, 1873, when the first journal was established here, their modest thoughts found expression. On June 3, 1873, a meeting was held at Hastings, to take steps for the removal of the county seat. M. K. Lewis presided, with J. M. Abbott, secretary. On motion of Samuel Alexander a committee of ten was appointed to canvass each precinct in the county in the interest of Hastings. For Denver, Thomas E. Farrell and R. V. Strockey were selected; for Little Blue, G. W. Donahy and A. Berg; for Silver Lake, C. K. Lawson and C. Kohl; for Kenesaw, A. D. Yocum and C. H. Paul, and for Juniata, B. H. Brown and S. S. Dow. The canvassers named were very active, so that all the measures, referred to in the former pages, were hurried forward. The opposition was not inactive. As hitherto told, a court-house was planned and the contract actually sold by the commissioners before the people stepped in to stop progress in the matter. In 1874-75, affidavit after affidavit flowed into the archives of the Legislature, pointing out an alleged irregularity in the organization of the county; also the fact that many of the election officials and a few of those elected were not citizens; that thirty legal voters were disfranchised because they would not vote for Juniata, and further, that the only notices of election, posted in the southern townships, was one at Spring Rancho, in Clay County. The election on this question was carried to the supreme court, where an order was issued compelling the board of canvassers to count the returns from Cottonwood, it being held that the judges and clerks of that precinct had duly qualified before the commissioners' board. Prior to the election the Hastings people gave material evidence of their good intentions in the matter.

In March, 1875, the celebrated bond for \$10,000 was acknowledged before J. H. Darnell, a notary, by Thomas E. Farrell, J. L. Parrott, Charles H.

Paul, R. A. Batty and M. K. Lewis, principals, and S. Alexander, J. G. B. Smith, Sam. Chaney, H. A. Forcht, J. M. Smith, A. J. Millett, G. W. Mowery, R. W. Oliver, C. C. Ingalls, J. T. Ross, George H. Pratt, O. Whitson, W. S. Deisher, J. H. Vandemark, J. Kolb, H. Hibeler, W. H. Stock, Charles Kohl, D. S. Cole, O. Oliver, R. Moreledge, F. J. Benedict and B. F. Brower, sureties. This bond was given to Adams County to insure the completion of a court-house before November 1, 1875, and the donation of such house and one city block to the county, in the event of the people voting to remove the seat of justice from Juniata to Hastings. Plans and specifications of the building were also made part of this agreement. The vote was taken in May, but Juniata having more than two-fifths of the total vote cast held the seat of justice.

In March, 1877, the county seat war was opened in the newspapers, the Journal giving valid reasons for removal, and the Juniata papers valid reasons against removal. Even the local poets loaned their genius for the occasion. One poem by Anonymous contains sixty-eight lines, reviewing the former contest and prophesying the result of the coming one in favor of Hastings. The last six lines of this poem are as follows:

Then like a monster from the deep,
She will come forth more fierce and bold,
To fight the battle o'er again—
And still continue on to fight
Until her enemies are slain
And victory shall crown the right.

On March 21, 1877, a bond was entered into by R. A. Batty, S. Alexander and C. K. Lawson, as principals, and C. H. Paul, R. R. Moreledge, James McWade, F. Forcht, J. W. Davis, Charles Cameron, O. Oliver, Mowery & Farrell, J. T. Ross, T. J. Benedict, A. W. Wheeler, Charles Kohl, Zehrung & Coy, M. K. Lewis and J. S. McIntyre as sureties for performance. This document provided for the erection of a court-house to cost \$8,000, and the conveyance of building and lots to the county in case the seat of justice should be located at Hastings. Plans and specifications were also made a part of this bond as in the former instance. The war of words preceding the election on this question was only equaled by the virulence of the language

used by the press of the county on each side, and in the midst of this turmoil the religious controversy between Rev. John Rutherford and Rev. W. E. Copeland, on the inspiration of the Scriptures, was introduced. Without regard to this substantial offer, the war was carried on, as shown in the election returns, and Hastings, after several legal quibbles were resorted to, was declared to have won the battle. The house in which the first term of the district court was held still stands at Juniata, a small frame building, now untenanted, the property of Dr. Ackley. The building is a one-story frame structure, and would hold not more than fifty people. The citizens of Juniata will hold it as a relic, and as a reminder of the great county seat fight between that place and Hastings.

The history of the removal of the offices to Hastings is given in detail in former pages. In November, 1888, the proposition to issue bonds, proceeds of which should be devoted to the erection of a court-house and jail, was carried by a vote of 1,416 for, and 1,044 contra. The bonds were issued, but owing to delays in registration, and a controversy over the act providing for the investment of the State school fund in bonds of this character, over a year elapsed from the date of election until Adams County received the first installment of moneys from this source. On December 24, 1889, a draft from W. J. Hayes & Sons, of Cleveland, O., for \$51,666.50, and certified check for \$25,833.50 were received by County Treasurer Paul. It is a singular fact that while other counties were trying the legality of their bonds and the constitutionality of the law under which they were issued, Adams County went right along with the work of building the court-house. Up to December 24, 1889, the county had neither received nor paid out a dollar of the bond money. In the summer the contract for building was sold to J. R. Sims, of Hastings, for \$66,000, he being the lowest bidder. The cornerstone was placed September 4, 1889, and before the first rain storm of that fall (December 28) the walls were complete, the roof ready for the slaters, and the construction of the clock tower well advanced. This building is described in the history of Hastings.

The first term of the district court held in Adams County was that opened May 6, 1873, within the school-building at Juniata. Judge Daniel Gantt presided, with Russell S. Langley, sheriff, and R. D. Babcock, clerk. The first grand jury comprised Ira G. Dillon, Harmon H. Ballou, W. H. Burr, R. D. Carrier, George Dade, John Huston, Clark S. Morrison, Edward Moore, C. B. Nelson, James Norrish, John Plank, Abram Parks and C. W. Wilson. The first suit presented was that of Adna H. Bowen *vs.* The Challenge Mill Company. The replevin suit by William Skinner resulted in the amendment of petition. The question of the admission of James Laird to the bar of this State was considered. Benjamin F. Smith, on presenting his credentials as a member of the Steuben County, Ind., bar, and Titus Babcock, as a member of the Monroe County, Mich., bar, were also admitted to practice in the several district courts of Nebraska. A committee, comprising C. J. Dilworth, John D. Hays and James Laird, was appointed to examine applicants for admission to the bar. On the certificate of this committee Harrison H. Blodgett, Guevera M. Blodgett and John M. Abbott were admitted. Dr. Charles A. Morgan and James Laird were appointed commissioners of insanity for Adams County. The petition for divorce by John B. Silvis from Miranda Silvis was granted without delay; the appeal of A. H. Bowen from the decision of the commissioners' court, and the indictment for false imprisonment against A. H. Bowen and James Laird were quashed, for the reason that it was not endorsed by the prosecutor.

The second term of court was opened May 25, 1874. Indictments for keeping tippling houses on the Sabbath were returned; the petition of Levi Carkins for divorce from Christina Carkins was granted, and a number of civil cases presented. On May 26, R. A. Batty and John M. Ragan were examined by a committee of lawyers comprising C. J. Dilworth, H. S. Kaley and L. S. Estele, and admitted to the bar on the certificate of this committee. The first judgment against the county was rendered at this time to J. R. Laine. L. P. Hawley was foreman of the trial jury in this case. The first indictment for assault and battery was returned

against Peter Halverson, and for selling liquor without license against Nathan Platt.

The third term of court was opened May 24, 1875. Four indictments for permitting games to be played in saloons were returned; A. H. Bowen, James Laird, George Donahey, Titus Babcock and Eugene A. Haselton were indicted for false imprisonment. Three petitions for divorce were entered. The injunction proceedings *in re.* Alex. D. Buckworth *vs.* commissioners, clerk and D. H. Freeman, contractor, *in re.* erection of court-house at Juniata, resulted in the granting of a perpetual injunction against further proceedings in the erection of county buildings as proposed. Mortgage foreclosures were authorized in several cases, and the divorce mill was reopened.

The application of J. James, of the bar of Potter County, Pa. (admitted in 1873), for admission to the bar was granted; that of Augustus T. Ash, of Linn County, Iowa, and also that of G. D. Pierce, of Michigan, were granted.

The fourth term of court was opened April 3, 1876. The first indictment for horse-stealing was returned against J. J. Williams and Milo Keech, and petitions for a divorce and embezzlement were entered. The petition for injunction against Treasurer Thorne and the trustees of Denver precinct railroad bonds was entered by C. H. Paul, and granted by the court, with a further order that such bonds be "cancelled and held for naught." Abbott & Ragan were the attorneys in this proceeding. A few petitions for divorce were presented. John Miller was found guilty of assault with intent to kill, by a jury of whom E. M. Beach was foreman, and sentenced to a two years' term in the penitentiary. The special term of May, 1876, considered the indictment for murder against John Williams of Harvey County, Neb. The prisoner was represented by Bowen & Laird and the State by C. J. Dilworth. The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty." In June George W. Stocker was admitted on certificate of the examiners—A. H. Bowen, A. T. Ash and M. V. Mondy. A few divorce cases were presented at this time. During the special November term similar cases were presented and William Wallace, Sr., and his son granted final papers in the matter

of their citizenship. In December the first indictment for perjury was entered against J. E. Suttie, nor did the last month of Centennial year pass away without a petition for divorce.

On February 12, 1877, the indictment for murder was returned against Jordan P. Smith, Fred G. Copeland and Bernardine Roach, on change of venue from Kearney County. Smith was represented by Gray & Laird and the State by C. J. Dilworth, Mondy, Abbott and Smith. On February 22 a jury, of which E. M. Allen was foreman, found Smith guilty of manslaughter and he was sentenced to a ten years' term in the penitentiary. In July, 1877, R. W. Beeson, of Montgomery County, Iowa, was admitted a member of the bar, and in February, 1878, Benjamin H. Hayden and James F. Nelson were examined by A. H. Bowen, R. A. Batty and T. D. Scofield and admitted on their certificate of examiners. There were only a few cases of criminal character before the court from the close of the February term of 1877 to the close of 1878. Civil cases growing out of debts due Cyrus H. McCormick, Deere & Co. and others, were numerous and may be said to have occupied the sole attention of the court. George Banks, of Winnebago, Wis., Webster M. Pond, of Dane County, Wis., Joseph A. Vanatta, of Iowa, were admitted members of this bar. Lucius Junia Capps, admitted in Illinois in 1875, became a member of the Nebraska bar on December 6, and also L. A. Royce, of Poweshiek County, Iowa. The suits of C. H. McCormick against several citizens occupied the attention of this term almost exclusively. Judge Gaslin signed the record January 1, 1879. Thomas D. Scofield qualified as district attorney. On February 15, the indictment for murder against John Brown, alias William John McElroy, was returned and John M. Ragan assigned for his defense. Attorneys Scofield and Brown prosecuted. A jury of which R. H. Vanatta was foreman found McElroy guilty of murder in the first degree as charged in first count, and not guilty under the second count. Judge Gaslin sentenced him to be hanged May 29, 1879.

On February 17, 1879, the murder of Ann W. Ketchum and Luther Mitchell on December 10, 1878, in Custer County, was officially brought, by

C. W. McNamor, before the notice of Judge Gaslin. Custer was then unorganized; but for judicial purposes was attached to the Fifth and Sixth judicial districts, so that no district judge could exercise jurisdiction over the whole territory. In view of this and further, considering that the crime was perpetrated in territory belonging to the Fifth district, or west of Sherman County, the judge ordered the trial of the murderers to be held in Adams County, beginning February 26, 1879. John M. Lyman was foreman of the special grand jury, who returned the indictment against the murderers. The case may be said to have occupied the attention of the court until April 17, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree, against Frederick Fisher and I. P. Olive. Both received sentences for life terms in the penitentiary.

R. S. Erwin was admitted to the bar March 31; A. D. Yocum, William C. Reilly, R. A. Dague and Samuel M. Brobst in April. On April 26 the jury disagreed on the question of the guilt of William H. Green and John Baldwin, who were indicted for murder with Olive and Fisher.

David P. Maryatt, of Iowa; F. H. Hepburn, of Iowa; L. D. Dent, of Illinois; C. D. Steele, of Illinois; William H. Lanning, of Illinois, and J. J. Lewis, of Ohio, were admitted to the bar in November, 1879. John Brown McElroy, sentenced to be hanged in 1879, survived the day; for on November 26, 1879, he is on trial anew for the murder of Stutzman. On May 12, 1880, he plead guilty of murder in the second degree, and was sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary.

On December 2 Miles J. Jacobs was examined and admitted, and on the 6th George F. Work was admitted. In May, 1880, F. M. Hallowell appears as official reporter. B. F. Hilton was admitted to the bar at this time, and also Thomas H. Mattars, James W. Carver and Thomas J. Noll. The indictments of William B. Baldwin and Ralph M. Taylor, for the murder of Allen J. Yocum, were presented on May 12. On the 18th Baldwin was found guilty of manslaughter on the first count.

Roger H. Mills was admitted to the bar on June 21, 1880, and Ambrose H. Gates in December. On the 17th of this month the suit of the Burlington &

Missouri River Railroad Company against Adams County, in the matter of taxes, was finished, and the county perpetually enjoined from the collection of taxes, except \$308.50, and the cloud on the title to some of the railroad lands removed.

During the year judgments were rendered against the Protestant Episcopal and First German Evangelical societies of Hastings. March 9, 1881, the first record of death among the legal circle is made in the case of Augustus F. Ash, who died February 25. March 17 the celebrated cases growing out of title to the town site of Hastings were decided by Judge Gaslin, as recorded in book 2, journal of district court, pages 571 to 582, and referred to in the history of Hastings. Harrison Bostwick was admitted to the bar on March 19. On this day the following agreement in the case of Adams County *vs.* W. B. Thorne, as principal, and William E. Thorne, C. R. Jones & Co., W. M. West, Weidler Grabill, Ira G. Dillon, James M. Sewell, J. S. Chandler, A. Yeazel and C. N. Paine & Co., as his sureties, was submitted.

"In consideration of the conveyance to C. R. Jones and A. L. Clarke, trustees of assets of W. B. Thorne for use of Adams County, by Abraham Yeazel and William B. Thorne, of all property heretofore conveyed to A. Yeazel or transferred to him and now conveyed or transferred by William B. Thorne to Jones & Clarke—the same being scheduled at \$62,886.63, all of which having been heretofore conveyed to Abraham Yeazel for the indemnification of himself and other sureties on the bond of W. B. Thorne, as treasurer of Adams County, it is hereby agreed that all the sureties of said Thorne shall be discharged from all liability at law or in equity."

The names of Clarke and Jones were substituted as plaintiffs *vice* Thorne, in suits by the ex-treasurer.

On June 21 the grand jury, of which Carlton Clarke was foreman, returned a true bill against William B. Thorne, ex-treasurer, for the embezzlement of \$13,997.65 of county moneys; \$5,570.34 of the district school land fund; \$8,479.63 of the district school fund, and \$5,664.75 of the district school judgment fund. V. Bierbower was district attorney. In June Mr. Thorne denied the charge, and the trial was postponed to December, 1881, the ex-treasurer being held in \$5,000 bail, which was promptly furnished. In December the case was brought up, but the records do not show its disposal

until mention is made in March, 1883. This term was opened in Mowery & Farrell's building at Hastings, on December 12, and at its close Frank D. Taggart and John L. Finley were admitted to the bar.

On October 23, 1882, court was opened by S. B. Pound under a previous order by Judge Gaslin. The grand jury returned an indictment against Peter Fowle for embezzlement of \$50,000, which had come into his possession by virtue of his office as deputy treasurer. John N. Lyman was foreman. In March he was allowed out on \$3,000 bail to appear for trial in June. On March 29, 1883, the indictment for murder against William B. Baldwin was disposed of (the supreme court reversing the judgment and ordering one according to the verdict), and the prisoner sentenced to a one year term in the penitentiary. The jury in the case—State of Nebraska *vs.* William B. Thorne, finished work June 18, and found the ex-treasurer guilty of embezzling \$22,000. Thomas Pearl was foreman of this body. A motion for a new trial was overruled and he was sentenced to a one year term in the penitentiary without solitary confinement, by Judge William H. Morris. On June 25, a writ of error was filed in the clerk's office, issued by the clerk of the supreme court, asking for a transcript of the Thorne case. John A. Casto and W. S. McKinney were admitted to the bar in October, 1883. Morriss Cliggett and Melville C. Hester were admitted March 19, 1884. An indictment for arson against William B. Baldwin was *nolle prossed* at the request of the district attorney. Edwin A. Hogg, formerly of Michigan, was admitted to practice here in November, also Lewis W. Hague, of Illinois. The indictments against Frederick Young, John Blivernicht, Oscar Winkler, Louis Hoffman and Henry Winkler were presented in June, 1885; but the trial jury could not agree, and Gustave Vosberg was sentenced to a year's term in the penitentiary. The Thorne case came up in another form on June 3, when Thorne's indebtedness was shown to be \$47,187.86, but in December, 1886, the sum of \$11,355.72 was ordered to be paid to the treasurer and Clarke & Jones discharged from liability. Charles D. Taylor, formerly of Iowa, was admitted to the bar in November,

also A. M. Cunningham, formerly of Pennsylvania, and James H. H. Hewett. In May J. B. Cessna* was admitted to practice here on formal application and on presentation of his Pennsylvania certificate.

On June 19, 1886, the refusal of Treasurer McCleery to accept moneys from A. L. Clarke (presumably moneys held by him as one of the trustees of the Thorne assets) was brought before the court, and Henry Bostwick named as receiver, or, in case of his refusal, S. A. Searle was ordered to receive the amount and place it in the safety vaults at Omaha.

William R. Burton was admitted in June, 1886, and in July, B. F. McLoney. In June, 1887, the case of *Anna Roeder vs. Henry and Oscar Winkler*; John Blevend and Fred Young were tried before a jury, of which D. H. Dean was foreman. In 1884 the State proceeded against the parties, but the jury disagreed; on this occasion, however, the damages were assessed against the defendants in the sum of \$200 and \$100 attorneys' fees. George D. Browne, of Utica, N. Y., and John C. Stephens, were admitted to the bar in June. In September, 1888, Charles Edmundson was admitted, and in December, William F. Peck. The trial of Lish Nelson was concluded during the December term, when a jury, of which D. W. Ripley was foreman, found him guilty of murder in the second degree. Judge Gaslin sentenced him to a life term in the penitentiary. His crime was the killing of C. J. Balcom, August 5, 1881. D. W. King, a burglar, was sentenced to a five years' term in the penitentiary. Elmer E. Ferris was admitted to the bar December 14, 1888. The information against David Crinkalau for the murder of Frank Fansler, November 2, 1888, was presented by District Attorney Tanner, in January, 1889, but the jury acquitted the prisoner. Joseph H. Edmundson was admitted to the bar in February, 1889. The information against Lizzie Aldridge for

the murder of (poisoning) John Aldridge, was presented May 20, 1889; but the evidence was of too general a character to convict her.

John C. Stevens was admitted to the Nebraska bar in June, 1887; John Snider in September, 1887, and Hugh Clemans in November, 1887, and John C. Hartigan, Benjamin F. Rawalt and Harry S. Dingan in May, 1889. In 1890 S. R. Brass, of Juniata, was admitted to the bar.

In former pages a memoranda of many cases brought before the courts of Adams County is given. The murder of the two settlers mentioned in the pioneer chapter may be taken as the beginning of the criminal calendar of this district. Some of these cases presented here deserve a more extended notice, because the plan of crime should be exposed in every case, and the incidents connected with the detection and punishment of the criminals given. In one instance the enormity of crime led some of the best citizens of the county to organize as a Secret Tribunal. This organization was perfected in a moment, and its edict carried into execution with admirable promptitude and regularity. In another case a specialist in rascality, named Randall, was shot down (it is alleged) in the court room by the brother of an outraged child, this doing away with the farce of trial, and saving to the county the moneys which would otherwise be expended in holding the farce on the stage of the district court.

In the case of the State *vs.* A. D. Rust for violating order of injunction *in re.* the school bonds, Titus Babcock, who was then county judge, had to testify, and so sent for Justice Jones that he might testify before him. *En route* the justice became gloriously drunk, and though called did not answer. Attorney Bowen ventured the statement that he was notary public, and could administer the oath to his honor; but Judge Babcock declined this kind offer, saying he would administer the oath to himself. Standing up, with folded hands and closed eyes, he said: "I, Titus Babcock, probate judge of Adams County, Neb., the evidence that I shall give, wherein the State of Nebraska is plaintiff and A. D. Rust defendant, shall be the whole truth, etc." After this he testified in the case. Opposition was of no use, and Rust was sent to jail at Omaha.

* J. B. Cessna was admitted before the court of common pleas of Bedford County, Pa., February 15, 1865, Alex. King, present judge. In May, 1872, he was admitted to practice before the Pennsylvania supreme court; in June, 1873, to the common pleas court of Erie County, Pa., and January 26, 1876, on nomination of Jeremiah S. Black, to the supreme court of the United States. Letters from Judge W. J. Baer, of the Somerset and Bedford court of common pleas, and from Ulysses Mercer, chief justice of Pennsylvania, were tendered to Mr. Cessna on his leaving for Nebraska in 1885.

In 1875 a party of thirteen herders or cowboys killed Milton Collins, of Buffalo County, and fled up the Platte Valley. Deputy United States Marshal Ball and nineteen citizens went in pursuit and captured eleven of the party immediately; but the next day Jordan P. Smith, the actual murderer, and the thirteenth associate were captured on an island in the Platte. Several times the captors were on the point of executing the first batch of eleven cowboys; but the absence of the principal criminal led to postponement, and ultimately the leading prisoner was allowed to be brought to trial. Smith was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged at Kearney; but a new trial was granted, and the case heard before Judge Gaslin, Jr., at Juniata. Smith was found guilty of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to a ten years' term in the penitentiary.

The killing of Henry Stutzman was the first proven deliberate murder which occurred in Adams County. This murder was committed by William John McElroy, on the morning of February 8, 1879. McElroy, alias John Brown, was a young man who had been making his home at Red Cloud with a relative, and at various places in Adams County. He had worked for different farmers during the fall and winter of 1878-79. On the evening of the day preceding the murder he started afoot from Hastings, armed with a revolver and rifle, and was presumed on his way to Red Cloud. About four miles southwest of Hastings coming to the homestead of Henry Stutzman, he requested permission to remain all night. Stutzman consented, the two men had supper, and after a short time, as McElroy stated, retired to rest. The next morning as Cameron Belliel, a neighbor of Stutzman, was passing by the latter's house, he noticed that the mules were gone. Calling to Stutzman and receiving no answer, he suspected something wrong, and in company with another neighbor, Joseph Wolf, they entered Stutzman's house. Then their suspicions of foul play were at once proven true, for Henry Stutzman was lying across a chair dead, having a wound in his head from both a rifle and revolver.

The people of the vicinity at once started in pursuit of the murderer and McElroy was soon

caught with the mules in his possession.* He made no attempt to escape, but said he killed Stutzman in self defense. He was taken to Ayr, a few minutes before the train arrived with Sheriff Martin and other officers, and was immediately conveyed to Hastings. Later on the same day an inquest was held by County Coroner W. Ackley, and the verdict of the jury was that Stutzman was killed by John Brown.

Excitement among the people when it was known that a murder had been committed in their midst, and that the murderer was in the hands of the sheriff, ran high. Some talk of lynching was indulged in, and Sheriff Martin, fearing he might be overpowered and his prisoner taken from him, had him adroitly conveyed to the railroad station and removed to the jail at Kearney.

The prisoner was soon indicted on two counts, first, murder in the first degree by shooting Stutzman with a gun. The second count was an indictment for the same offence, by shooting with a pistol. Court was then convened by Judge Gaslin, when McElroy was arraigned and pleaded "not guilty," whereupon the following jurors were empaneled to try the case: A. J. Adams, R. H. Vanatta, C. A. Lane, E. W. Hall, T. L. Orton, M. L. Cook, J. W. Sheffield, W. T. Pomeroy, J. H. Spencer, D. W. Biglow, S. G. Johnson and George Beattie. T. D. Scofield, district attorney, assisted by A. H. Bowen conducted the case for the State. John M. Ragan and A. T. Ash were the attorneys for the defendant. The evidence elicited that some time during the night of the tragedy McElroy, while still in bed, reached over to the table where his pistol was lying and shot Stutzman while he was still asleep. The first shot only stunning or dazing him, he arose from the bed and staggered to a chair, and while sitting on the chair, McElroy shot him a second time with the rifle, which resulted in his instant death.

The trial occupied one day, and at 10 o'clock the next morning the jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree, whereupon Judge Gaslin

*Engineer Clark saw the mules on his way up from Red Cloud. Hearing of the murder on his arrival, he reported the matter and took a posse at once to capture the murderer.

sentenced the prisoner to death, and May 29, 1879, was fixed as the day of execution.

The speedy capture and trial of McElroy is probably the most summary transaction of the kind on record in the State of Nebraska, for in less than eight days after the commission of the crime the murderer received his sentence to expiate his guilt by the extreme penalty of the law. He was not hanged, however, for his attorneys secured a new trial, and he was allowed to plead guilty of murder in the second degree, and was then sentenced to the State's prison for life. In 1889 Gov. Thayer pardoned him.

The celebrated Olive case in point of general interest was the most important ever tried in Nebraska, or, perhaps, west of the Missouri River. This was the trial in Hastings, in 1879, of I. P. Olive and others for the lynching and murder of Luther Mitchell and Ami W. Ketchum. From the most reliable sources of information it is learned that on November 27, 1878, a party of men rode up to the house of Mitchell, on Clear Creek, for the purpose, they claimed, of arresting Ketchum, who was living with Mitchell, for cattle stealing. Instead of quietly demanding his surrender they began shooting at him. He was soon wounded in the arm, but returned the shot and killed a deputy sheriff known by the name of Stevens, but whose right name was Olive. I. P. Olive, a wealthy cattle man of the South Loup, and brother of the man "Stevens" or Olive, killed by Ketchum, at once offered a reward of \$1,000 for the capture, dead or alive, of both Mitchell and Ketchum. These men were both willing to surrender to the proper authorities, but expressed fear of the cowboys of Custer County. They were, however, soon arrested, and several sheriffs and deputy sheriffs of adjoining counties received their share of the reward. Then as they were being taken from Kearney County to Custer County for preliminary examination, by Sheriff Gillan, of Keith County, and Phil Dufrand, of Custer County, they were taken from these officers by a party of armed men, and at a point about one mile south of the South Loup River, in Custer County, were hanged and burned.

They were found the next afternoon. Ketchum

was still hanging, but the rope suspending Mitchell had broken, and he was lying in the ashes of the still smoldering fire partly supported by the left arm, which was fastened to Ketchum's right by a pair of handcuffs.

The brutality surrounding the circumstances of these men's death, being hung, shot and burned, perhaps alive, was such as to cause the greatest excitement, and a strong demand from the people of Nebraska that those guilty of this crime be hunted down and punished, caused the State to offer a reward of \$10,000, and a further reward of \$200 each from the governor for all proven to be implicated in the sad affair.

Suspicion at once pointed to I. P. Olive, who with John Baldwin, Myron Brown, Barney Armstrong, John Gaslin, Fisher Gillan, Dufrain and a few more, were soon arrested and placed in jail at Kearney.

As Custer County, the county where the crime was committed, had not at this time been attached to any judicial district, Judge Gaslin concluded to have these men indicted and tried in Adams County. This was done, and, after a protracted trial, in which the State was ably represented by Attorney-General C. J. Dilworth, District Attorney C. D. Scofield, and C. M. Thurston, of Omaha, and the defendants by the late Hon. James Laird, Judge Homer, now judge of the Tenth district and others, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty against I. P. Olive and one of the others, toward whom suspicion pointed, who were at once sentenced to the penitentiary for life, while the remainder of the indicted men were released.

From the fact that the State appropriated \$10,000 for the prosecution of this case, the number of men under indictment, the ability and brilliancy of the lawyers arraigned on both sides, and the heinousness of the crime charged, made it the most important in point of interest of any case tried in Nebraska, before or since. The proceedings were reported by the Associated Press all over the United States, while some papers had special correspondents located at Hastings during the trial.

After Olive had been in prison about one year his lawyers succeeded in having his case brought

before the superior court of the State, and there it was held that the indictment and trial in Adams County was an error, that the proceedings against him should have been brought in Custer County; on account of this error the prisoners were released on their own recognizance. The grand jury of Custer County never having taken any action in the case, they were not brought to trial again.

The inquisition upon the body of the murderer Martin Hollerick was held at the house in Cottonwood, where the deceased resided, August 28, 1880. The jury found Nicholas Rickinger (his brother-in-law) guilty of striking the fatal blow. As hitherto related, Rickinger escaped punishment.

Matt Simmerman, who on October 16, 1882, with Dick Belmont, shot and killed Sheriff Woods in the dining-room of the hotel at Minden, was captured, tried, convicted. He was sentenced by Judge Gaslin to be hanged on April 21, 1883. On the 18th of that month a writ of error was sued out in the State supreme court, and in July the judgment was reversed. On October 13, his second trial began, and, on the 25th, he was sentenced to be hanged. February 4, 1884, another appeal to the supreme court failed him, and the sentence was ordered to be carried out on March 17, 1885. A few days prior to this Lawyer Burr sued out a writ of error to the United States supreme court, and for the first time in the legal history of the country a criminal under the death sentence was allowed out on bail.

The murder of Cassius M. Millett was another unfortunate affair. Notary Public Le Dioyt took the statement of Mr. Millett, March 27, 1883. This pointed out the sidewalk between Pickens' house and the mill where the three murderers held him up, telling him to give up his money. They then ordered him west, and at May's gate he made an effort to escape, and was nearly inside the gate when he was shot, after which he climbed the line fence between May's ground and his own. On March 28 a meeting was held at Liberal Hall, over which Mayor Lanning presided, to consider the question of raising money to be expended in the capture of the murderers. S. J. Weigle was chosen secretary, and S. Alexander, A. L. Clarke, L. H. Tower, D. M.

McElhinney and A. H. Cramer were appointed a committee on collections, and Thomas E. Farrell, R. A. Batty and C. K. Lawson members of the executive committee. Mr. Millett died on March 27, and was buried on April 1 by the G. A. R., of which body he was a member. The coroner's inquest was held on March 30 by Winfield Ackley, coroner, John N. Lyman, Charles Cameron, D. M. McElhinney, J. B. Heartwell, W. O. Hall and A. L. Wigton, jurors; and Messrs. Sowers, Lynn, Urquhart, Cook, Naulteus and Royce, physicians. Prior to this Deputy Sheriff Stock, Stoelting and others collected some evidence which led to the arrest of James Green, John Babcock and Fred Inghram. A Mrs. Davis found a mask of curtain calico near the scene of the murder, which was recognized as a part of the wash-stand cover used by Green in his room at the Central House. This, with the fact that the three criminals were seen in consultation, led to their arrest at Kohl's farm. On seeing the mask and other evidences of their guilt they were amazed. After a preliminary examination before Judge Work, two of the prisoners, Inghram and Babcock, turned State's evidence, and each told the story of the crime precisely as it was planned and perpetrated. On the day of their victim's funeral the prisoners were taken to Lincoln by Sheriff Hutchinson; but on the day after were taken back as far as Howard, where the coroner's jury visited them. On April 3 they were removed to Hastings and arraigned before Judge Work. Babcock alone of the trio plead guilty. They were guarded by special deputies—C. H. Deitrich, W. Cutter, Z. E. Hutchinson, Edward Burton and J. P. Farr, in the jury room off the court room in the "Stone Block," and to all intents the law was to take its slow course. At about 10 o'clock that night a squad of thirty men entered the court room, breaking in the door, whence they proceeded to the room where the prisoners were guarded, which they entered in the same manner, and placing revolvers at the head of each guard, abducted the self-confessed criminals, taking them from their beds. Placing ropes around their necks, they were marched down stairs, when Green and Inghram were placed in a buggy, and Babcock led to the place of execution—a bridge on the Grand

Island Railroad about one mile north of the city. There the ends of the ropes attached to the three condemned men were fastened to the rails and the trio pushed off the bridge. Mr. Deitrich, one of the guards who was pressed into the service of leading Babcock to execution, cut the rope and thus saved the fellow for trial. An inquisition on the executed criminals was held by Sheriff Hutchinson with Lyman H. Tower, Charles L. Stone, A. H. Sowers, G. E. Douglass, George Marks and G. E. Kimball, jurors, who returned a verdict of death from strangulation.—[Mr. LeDioyt's report in Gazette-Journal.]

In July, 1833, ghostly visitants were observed at the St. Joseph & Western Railroad bridge, northeast of the city. It appears that a few persons while passing the place where Inghram and Green were so summarily executed, saw the dead criminals approach the bridge and begin an inspection of it. Other parties visited the spot, always reporting the presence of an unapproachable ghost. In 1883 and 1884 the Invincibles took a part in administering justice.

The Aldrich mystery for a long time occupied public attention. John Aldrich was a quiet, highly respected farmer living near Blue Point in the southern part of Adams County. He died suddenly on December 5, 1885, under quite suspicious circumstances. A few days after his burial the citizens concluded that an investigation was necessary, and his body was exhumed, and the contents of the stomach sent to Prof. Haines, of the Rush Medical College at Chicago. The chemical analysis revealed a large quantity of arsenic. Suspicion pointed to his wife, Lizzie Aldrich, as the criminal, and she was arrested, indicted and brought to trial at the May term of the district court in 1889, but owing to insufficient evidence was acquitted.

The theory of self-murder was advanced and believed in by some, as he had threatened to commit suicide on several occasions, and about one half hour before his death he took a drink of whisky from a bottle; as he did so, it is reported that he said, "here goes the last." The whisky remaining in this bottle was analyzed and revealed arsenic, but whether placed there by himself or some one else, was never known.

The body of James Quinn was found September 28, 1886, partially devoured by hogs. His murderers placed the body in a shallow grave, from which the hogs removed the clay covering and began devouring the body. A German named Sproetz was arrested and charged with the crime, but Lawyer Tanner urged his discharge so eloquently that the justice acquiesced. Later he was held to give evidence before the coroner, but after the adjournment of the inquest, he escaped. Mayor Alexander called a meeting to consider the question of offering a reward for the capture of the murderer. C. F. Royce was appointed secretary. The efforts to capture the criminal failed and after waiting until December 7, the coroner's jury found Wilhelm Sproetz guilty of wilful murder.

G. W. Randall was arrested March 16, 1887, charged with criminal assault upon Lora May Hart, the eleven year old daughter of Marion Hart, of Edgar. On March 17 he was taken before Judge Fleming, but the hearing was postponed until the 18th; it being St. Patrick's day, and a number of people in the city, the authorities sent the ruffian under guard of Deputy Hammond to Grand Island for safety. Next morning he was brought back for trial. He was defended by Batty & Casto, while Searl, of Edgar, and C. H. Tanner prosecuted. (On Friday Mrs. Randall arrived from Forest City, Mo., and was at once arrested on the charge of abetting her husband in his designs upon the child.) Randall pleaded not guilty. The evidence, then taken, points out that in February Dr. Randall visited his several patients at Edgar, among whom was Mrs. Hazelbaker, who was the first to discover the Doctor's (?) doings. Randall, learning that Lora Hart was suffering from sore eyes, prevailed upon Mr. Hart to allow his daughter to be treated by him. The girl boarded at the New England House for two days, after which Mrs. Randall and the Doctor compelled her to stay with them and even sleep with them. All would go to bed together, but in the morning the child would find herself alone with the demon who was her physician. The child protested against his assaults and removed to the Commercial Hotel, where he placed her under the influence of opiates and assaulted her repeatedly. By threats

the couple compelled her to return to their room, and then their treatment became too terrible to bear, Mrs. Randall assisting the Doctor. On March 12 the girl returned, and her actions were of such a character as to occasion suspicion. Her parents questioned her, and breaking into tears she told the whole story. The evidence was so strong that Judge Fleming held the leech in \$5,000 bonds to appear for trial. While the papers in the case were being made out a shot was heard and Randall fell dead. A coroner's jury, presided over by F. L. Brown, comprising C. H. Dietrich, G. J. Evans, J. E. Gant, Thomas E. Farrell, J. F. Ballinger and H. C. Haverly, found that death ensued "from a gun shot wound at the hand of some party to us unknown." Mrs. Randall claimed the body, but being short of funds, it was interred in the potter's field. Mrs. Randall was held for trial in bonds of \$1,000, by Justice Vineyard. She was taken to her boarding house and later that night removed to a safer place, lest the angry people should execute her. The avenger of the wrongs of his little sister shot well and truly, sending one of the blackest hearted wretches of the country before a higher tribunal than the district court, and saving the county the expense of a prosecution.

The celebrated case growing out of the defalcation of W. B. Thorne was closed in December, 1886. He came to Adams County with moderate means in 1872, but later was found to be in straitened circumstances. In the fall of 1873 he was elected treasurer of the county, re-elected in 1875, again in 1876, and lastly in 1879. Up to within a year prior to November, 1879, there was not a word uttered

against his integrity as treasurer. Did hail or grasshoppers destroy the crops, Thorne would advance the farmers' tax, taking a note in payment. He was liberal in other directions; but the whisperings of 1878 won some believers, for it was apparent that "Papa" Thorne could not go so deeply into speculative deals and purchase so much lands, or fix his sons in business so solidly, without using the county funds. In 1879 the day of reckoning was seen approaching. Commissioners Moore, Yocum and Wilson examined the treasurer's accounts and found his balances of \$30,178.32 fully accounted for. This action disarmed suspicion for a time; but during the year 1880 another examination of forty days' duration disclosed a storage of about \$50,000. Mr. Thorne turned his property over to A. L. Clarke and Charles R. Jones as trustees, who in December, 1886, received the acknowledgments of Judge Morris for the manner in which they carried out the trust. When the defalcation was known to exist, criminal proceedings were taken and after two years of law's delays, he was sentenced to a one year's term in the penitentiary; but the sentence was suspended and remains suspended.

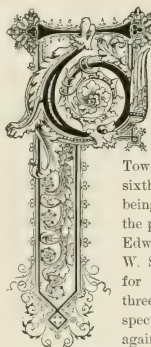
On January 10, 1890, Judge Gaslin handed down his decision in the case of Adams County vs. R. B. Tussey, ex clerk of the county, to recover a defalcation. Judgment against Tussey and his fifteen sureties was given for \$1,774.62 and \$150 costs. The Nebraskan in noticing this case says: "The original deficiency was about \$3,000, afterward reduced, principally by Mrs. Tussey, who worked for months in the office writing up the record that her husband had neglected to attend to.



CHAPTER XIV.

RECORD OF ELECTIONS—VARIOUS OFFICIALS CHOSEN—CONSIDERATION OF QUESTIONS OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE—
 UNDER TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION LAWS—PROPOSITION FOR FUNDING BONDS—JOURNALISTS AND JOURNAL-
 ISM—THE NEWSPAPER AS A POWERFUL MORAL AGENT—SKETCHES OF PRESS ENTERPRISES—
 FIRST ISSUES OF SUNDRY PUBLICATIONS—THEIR DEVELOPMENT AND INFLUENCE.

Serious in aspect, earnest in their talk.—Dryden.



THE first general election for Adams County was held December 12, 1871, when 29 votes were cast, the total vote being recorded only on the question of locating the county seat on Section 12, Township 7, Range 11, west of the sixth principal meridian, there being 28 votes for and 1 against the proposition. Samuel L. Brass, Edwin M. Allen and Wellington W. Selleck received 28 votes each for county commissioners, for three, two and one year terms respectively, one vote being recorded against each of the two first named.

Russell D. Babcock received 27 votes for clerk; John S. Chandler, 26 for treasurer; Isaac W. Stark, 26 for sheriff; Titus Babcock, 26 for probate judge; George Henderson, 27 for surveyor; Adna H. Bowen, 26 for school superintendent; Isaiah Sluyter, 28 for coroner; William W. Camp, 27 for assessor; W. W. Selleck, 28 and Harmon H. Ballou, 27 for justices of the peace; Simeon Johnson and Robert Mason, 28 each for constables; Judson Burwell, Thomas J. Kemp and Edgar A. Adams, 27, 28 and 27, respectively, for judges of election; Samuel P. Howland and William

J. Janes, 28 votes each for clerks of election. One voter appears to have opposed this ticket, which was known as the Adams County ticket throughout, except in the case of Commissioner Selleck, against whom not one vote was cast, although one of his friends evidently did not vote for him.

The election for Juniata precinct in October, 1873, resulted in the choice of Samuel J. Shirley and William B. Cushing, justices, over Charles Kilburn and Joseph A. Robertson, the winners' vote being 95 and the defeated candidates' 41. George Kuder, Charles R. Jones and James Norrish were elected judges of election; John M. Cole and Enos J. Hanchett, clerks of election; William J. Derrick and William H. Gardner, constables; William L. Kemp received 134 votes for assessor.

The elections of October, 1873, in Little Blue precinct gave a majority vote to R. M. Jones for justice, he receiving 60 against 56 recorded for C. G. Wilson and 21 for W. S. Mote; C. Bird, R. D. Carrier and S. M. West were chosen election judges; J. L. Johnson and J. A. Waldeck, clerks of election; Robert Mason and William Vastine, constables; Moses Livingstone, assessor.

The elections of October, 1873, in Denver precinct resulted as follows: G. J. Milliard received 100, L. C. Gould 86, and F. S. Wells 15 for justices of the peace, the first named being chosen. M. K. Lewis, S. S. Dow and A. W. Wheeler were chosen

judges of election over C. K. Lawson, A. Andrus and L. C. Gould; E. Steinau and D. S. Cole were chosen clerks of election; G. W. Mowery and F. Hudson, constables; Charles H. Paul received 107 votes for assessor and was unopposed. In April, 1874, there were 7 votes cast in favor of giving aid to the St. Joe & Grand Island Railroad Company, and 171 votes against such aid. In May 134 votes were recorded for and 87 contra.

The elections of October, 1873, in Silver Lake precinct show 46 votes for Isaac Vanderwort and 45 for Charles W. Wilson, who were elected justices; B. H. Scott, R. K. Dailey and M. B. Kelly, judges of election; H. B. Munson and J. J. Hoyleman, clerks of election; J. W. Yeager, who received 47 votes and John P. Duncan 38 votes, were chosen constables, and A. C. Moore received 48 votes for assessor and was elected.

The fall elections of 1873 were held October 17. Alexander H. Cramer received 374 votes and William H. Gardner 1 vote for clerk; William B. Thorne 289, and Peter Fowie 87, for treasurer; Benjamin F. Smith 238, and A. W. Wheeler 137 votes for probate judge; James B. McCleery 277, and W. H. Gardner 93 for sheriff; Hiram C. Humbert 376 for coroner; William Scott 274, and Joseph Horgan 97 for surveyor; Russell S. Langley 273, and Dr. George Kuder 99 for commissioner of the Second district; A. H. Bowen 374 for school superintendent. The question of issuing bonds to fund county indebtedness received 172 votes, while against the proposition 295 votes were recorded.

In June, 1874, Juniata gave 78, Kenesaw 3, Denver 4, Ovid or Silver Lake 17, and Little Blue 2, or a total of 104 votes in favor of issuing bonds to pay outstanding warrants. The vote against this proposition, in the precinct order given, was 36, 22, 156, 23 and 53, or a total of 292.

The elections of October, 1874, show 480 votes for Lorenzo Crouse and 47 for J. W. Savage, candidates for Congress. Under this heading, with *count* written after title of office on record, Patrick O. Hawes is credited with 487 votes; Silas Garber, candidate for governor received 485 votes, and A. Tuckbury 42 votes; W. J. Connell received 243 votes for the office of district attorney in the

Second and M. B. Hoxie in the Third judicial district; N. K. Griggs received 457, and R. P. Stein 75 votes for Senator of the Twelfth district; A. Nance 457, and George H. Peebles 74, for representative of the Thirteenth district. There were 527 votes cast for holding constitutional convention, and three cast against the proposition; A. D. Yocum received 341, and J. H. Vandemark 182 votes for commissioner of the Third district.

W. D. Willoughby was elected justice of Little Blue, and Moses Livingstone assessor; J. B. Roscoe, assessor of Silver Lake; McD. Martin and William Martin, justices of Cottonwood, and Richard Spicknall, assessor; A. L. Wigton, justice of Denver; B. E. Boyer, assessor, and C. E. Forgy and John Gould, constables; Peter Fowle, justice of Juniata; W. L. Kemp, assessor; Edward Moore and John W. Sheffield, justices of Kenesaw, and L. Darling, assessor.

In May, 1875, delegates to the constitutional convention from the district composed of Webster, Kearney and Adams, were voted for. James Laird received 399, Legrand B. Thorne, 375, M. V. Mondy, 564, and Jacob C. Wilson, 528.

The question of re-locating the county seat was also submitted at this time, the vote for Juniata being 381, made up as follows: Juniata precinct, 201; Kenesaw, 66; Denver, 7; Silver Lake, 68; Little Blue, 11, and Cottonwood, 28. The vote in favor of Hastings was 559, Juniata giving 53; Kenesaw, 9; Denver, 295; Silver Lake, 48; Little Blue, 114, and Cottonwood, 10. The canvassing board comprised County Clerk A. H. Cramer, George W. Wolcott and W. H. Burr, who declared that Juniata, having more than two-fifths of all the votes cast, should continue to be the county seat. Some wag in the midst of the serious contest cast his vote for some place which he named *Luniata*.

The elections of October 15, 1875, show 729 votes for and 21 against the adoption of the new constitution; 650 for the article relating to seat of government, and 32 against; 673 for article allowing electors to express their preference for United States Senators, and 46 against; 444 votes for William Gaslin, Jr., 390 for C. J. Dilworth, and 46 for B. I. Hinman, judge of the Fifth district; 509

for John R. Ratcliff, and 373 for John B. Roscoe, candidates for commissioners of First district; 868 for B. F. Smith, probate judge; 489 for William B. Thorne, and 391 for S. Sadler, candidates for treasurer; 457 for A. L. Wigton, and 399 for L. Darling, candidates for school superintendent; 596 for James B. McCleery, and 269 for H. B. Strout for sheriff; 864 for William Van Allen, surveyor; 485 for Dr. C. M. Wright, and 380 for Col. W. L. Smith, candidates for coroner; 542 for A. H. Cramer, and 347 for Wesley M. White, candidates for clerk. Samuel J. Shirley and Peter Fowle were elected justices, and George T. Brown assessor of Juniata; H. W. Krone and John Kent justices, and L. A. Boley assessor of Kenesaw; George F. Work and L. C. Gould justices, and J. A. Innis assessor of Denver; C. W. Wilson and Isaac Vanderwort justices, and A. C. Moore assessor of Silver Lake; S. F. Reed and W. S. Moote justices, and M. Livingstone assessor of Little Blue; E. C. Clewitt and Charles Morse justices, and R. S. Spicknall assessor of Cottonwood.

The November elections were introduced in Centennial year. The vote for A. H. Connor and other electors was 767; for D. A. Wheeler and other electors, 401. For Congress, Frank Welch received 627; Marvin Warren, 111, and Joseph Hollman, 207; for Congress contingent, Thomas J. Majors, 746, and William H. Deck, 19; for governor, Silas Garber, 766, and Parn Eigland, 205; for district attorney, C. J. Dilworth, 965; for Senator, Twenty-fourth district, J. S. McIntyre, 567, J. S. Gilham, 300, and R. M. Simonton, 101; for representative, Second district, S. Sadler, 593; L. P. Hawley, 331, and George T. Hutchinson, 125; for commissioner, Second district, Edward Moore, 498; Thomas Farabee, 282, and E. M. Allen, 157.

The justices and assessors then elected were: William L. Kemp justice, and G. T. Brown assessor of Juniata; E. B. Moore and O. H. Wright justices, and John Fruman assessor of Kenesaw; D. L. Barlass assessor of Denver; J. P. Duncan justice, and R. S. Spicknall assessor of Silver Lake; A. C. Moore assessor of Little Blue; J. A. Nichols justice, and J. Holman assessor of Cottonwood; John Dyer and A. G. Hall justices, and S. M. West assessor of

Pawnee; A. F. Powers and L. P. Hawley justices, and D. M. Barlass assessor of West Blue.

In April, 1877, the question of locating the county seat was again submitted. Five hundred and thirty-five votes were cast for Juniata, and 844 for Hastings. Juniata precinct gave 231; Kenesaw, 65; Denver, 26; Silver Lake, 46; Little Blue, 32; Cottonwood, 90; Pawnee, 27, and West Blue, 18, in favor of old Juniata; while Juniata gave 4; Kenesaw, 13; Denver, 491; Silver Lake, 15; Little Blue, 82; Cottonwood, 7; Pawnee, 130, and West Blue, 102, in favor of Hastings. The canvassing board comprised County Clerk A. H. Cramer, Thomas R. Lee, and Thomas D. Scofield, who declared Hastings the new county seat in virtue of having received over three-fifths of the entire vote cast. In November A. D. Yocum received 873 votes for commissioner, the other thirteen candidates receiving only 50 votes *in toto*; A. H. Cramer received 970 votes against 14 given to the other six candidates; W. B. Thorne received 645 votes, and Charles S. Powers 405 for treasurer; S. L. Martin, 315, Benjamin Vastine, 272; C. Kilburn, 167; W. S. Hubble, 168, and J. H. Robertson, 114 votes for sheriff; B. F. Smith, 600; J. C. Wilson, 357, and A. H. Bowen 86 for probate judge; William Van Allen, 1,004 for surveyor; A. L. Wigton, 755, and A. D. Williams, 260 for school superintendent; W. Ackley, 537, and F. E. Dalrymple 496 for coroner.

The question of township organization was submitted in November, 1877. The project received 732 votes and was opposed by 56.

Orlando Stever and Robert Ash were elected justices of Juniata, and John L. Kent, assessor; J. M. Strohl and J. W. Stinchcomb, justices of Kenesaw, and John Truman assessor; George F. Work, justice of Denver, and D. L. Barlass, assessor; J. J. Hoyleman, justice of Silver Lake, and R. S. Spicknall, assessor; D. C. Olmsted, justice of Little Blue, and M. Livingstone, assessor; A. N. Hall, justice of Pawnee, and S. M. West, assessor; A. F. Powers, justice of West Blue, and D. M. Barlass, assessor; W. P. Davis and Joseph Basye, justices of Cottonwood, and G. J. Holman, assessor.

The elections of May 4, 1878, on the question of voting bonds in aid of the construction of the Re-

publican Valley Railroad, show 48 for and 11 contra in Silver Lake; 82 for and 21 contra in Cottonwood; 199 for and 2 contra in Juniata; 323 for and 110 contra in Denver; 72 for, 59 contra and 12 neutral in Pawnee; 55 for, 25 contra and 27 against any issue of bonds in Little Blue.

In November, 1878, Edward K. Valentine received 773 and J. W. Davis 266 votes for Congressman; Thomas J. Majors 775 and Thomas B. Parker 260 for Congressman, contingent (later Majors received 776 and Alex. Bear, 264 to fill vacancy); 768 for Albinus Nance and 263 for W. H. Webster, candidates for governor; 782 for C. J. Dilworth and 260 for S. H. Calhoun, candidates for attorney-general; 723 for T. D. Scofield and 292 for William Neville, candidates for district attorney; 773 for S. R. Thompson, and 269 for S. L. Barrett, candidates for superintendent of schools; 461 for Charles L. Antram, for surveyor; A. L. Wigton, 480, J. M. Abbott, 213, and Charles Kilburn, 329, candidates for Senator; 491 for A. F. Powers, and 527 for R. A. Batty, candidates for representative; 570 for C. G. Wilson, and 412 for John Duncan, candidates for commissioner of First district; 398 for bonds, and 616 contra, Juniata precinct giving 15; Kenesaw, 42; Denver, 259; Silver Lake, 1; Little Blue, 10; Pawnee, 27; West Blue, 32, and Cottonwood, 12 for; while 155, 18, 178, 50, 62, 55, 54 and 44 were recorded against in the respective precincts.

In 1878 Charles Kilburn was elected justice, and John L. Kent, assessor, of Juniata; S. M. Roberts and J. G. Hayzett, justices of Kenesaw, and John Truman, assessor; Isaac Le Dioyt, assessor of Denver; S. L. Parks and B. F. Munson, justices, and R. S. Spicknall, assessor of Silver Lake; E. M. Beach, justice, and M. Livingstone, assessor of Little Blue; D. M. Barlass, of West Blue; C. C. Clewitt and R. M. Boyd, justices of Cottonwood, and C. Hohlfeld, assessor; John Dyer, justice of Pawnee, and A. W. Waldeck, assessor.

The elections of November, 1879, show 1,843 votes for William Gaslin for judge of the Fifth district. For commissioner, Albert V. Cole received 1,147, and George T. Hutchinson, 693; for county clerk, John A. Waldeck received 565, Robert T. McGrew, 523, and Robert B. Tussey, 752; for clerk

of the district court, A. H. Cramer received 1,319, and George H. Hartsough, 513; for treasurer, William B. Thorne received 1,000, and Charles K. Lawson, 852 votes; S. Lewis Martin received 1,204 votes, J. H. Robertson, 213, and T. M. Abbott, 313 for sheriff; Benjamin F. Smith, 976, Charles Kilburn, 396, and G. D. Pierce, 347 votes for county judge; Jasper N. Smith, 1,627 for surveyor; Lucy A. McFadden, 1,360, and L. Darling, 451 votes for superintendent of schools; Dr. William H. Lynn, 1,267, and Dr. J. J. Hoyleman, 526 for coroner.

The justices and assessors elected in Juniata precinct were W. H. Beal, justice, and John L. Kent, assessor; in Kenesaw, J. G. Hayzett, justice, and George W. Wolcott, assessor; in Denver, J. A. Vanatta, justice, and A. J. Orendorf, assessor; in Ayr, O. D. Barras received 83, James Winney, 16, and four other candidates 18 votes *in toto* for justice, while A. C. Moore received 106, E. J. Oldham, 36, and S. Ellis, 30 votes for assessor; in Little Blue, J. K. Dean was elected justice, and M. Livingstone, assessor; in Cottonwood Solomon Holman was chosen justice, and C. Hohlfeld, assessor; in West Blue, A. F. Powers was elected justice, and George Brannan, assessor, and in Silver Lake, B. F. Munson was chosen justice, and R. L. Spicknall, assessor.

The votes on the funding bond proposition and the sale of county lot submitted in 1879 were as follows: For funding bonds, 284, against 865; for selling lot, 1,174, against, 35.

The elections of November, 1880, show 1,444 votes for James Laird, 550 for James E. Boyd and 51 for W. M. Connor, presidential electors; 1,448 for Albinus Nance and 547 for T. W. Tipton, candidates for governor; 1,440 for C. J. Dilworth and 544 for George E. Pritchett, candidates for attorney-general; 1,431 for E. K. Valentine and 542 for James E. North, for Congress; 1,437 for W. W. Jones, superintendent of schools, and 547 for Alex. Bear, 1,477 for A. T. Ash and 526 for L. D. Dent, candidates for district attorney; 1,371 for C. R. Jones and 640 for Charles Cameron, candidates for representative; 1,363 for C. B. Coon and 649 for E. M. Allen, candidates for Senator of the Twenty-fourth district; 1,389 for W. W. Hopper and 627 for J. H. Vandermark, for commissioner. There were

only 173 votes cast as preference votes for United States Senator—James Laird receiving 169. The assessors elected were John L. Kent, Juniata; M. Higgins, Kenesaw; D. L. Barlass, Denver; A. C. Moore, Ayr; William Colton, Little Blue; E. Dominy, West Blue; C. Hohlfeld, Cottonwood, and R. S. Spicknall, Silver Lake. Isaac Vanderwort was elected justice of Ayr, C. P. Horcletoad of Cottonwood.

In November, 1881, Victor Bierbower received 1,106 votes for district attorney; Samuel L. Brass was candidate for university regent; S. L. Martin received 642, C. G. Wieson, 424, and George T. Hutchinson, 669 votes for sheriff; W. S. Crow, 1,346 and Emanuel Stienau, 475 votes for treasurer; George F. Work, 978, and Ben. F. Smith, 830 votes for county judge; Lucy A. McFadden, 1,789, and Lucy A. Darling, 3 votes for superintendent of schools; Gordon H. Edgerson, 1,567, and C. W. Wilson, 238 votes for commissioner; Thomas E. Farrell, 1,087, and E. N. Woodford, 718 votes for surveyor; Joseph Williams, 978, and William H. Lynn, 822 votes for coroner; Robert B. Tussey, 1,037, and L. M. Sevenford 777 votes for county clerk.

The assessors elected were R. Ash, A. C. Snoeberger, D. L. Barlass, A. C. Moore, John Jung, Isaac Boyd, J. G. Holman, C. H. Chapman and G. W. Spicknall.

The justices of the peace elected this year were J. W. Liveringhouse, J. G. Hayzlett, J. H. Fleming, W. W. Philleo, James K. Dean, Solomon Favinger, Aaron Powers and F. McDonald, the order of location being Juniata, Kenesaw, Denver, Ayr, Little Blue, Cottonwood, West Blue and Silver Lake.

In February, 1882, the funding proposition was submitted. There were 406 votes cast against this measure and 46 in favor of it.

The fall elections of 1882 show James W. Dawes to have received 712 votes; E. P. Ingersoll, 782, and J. Sterling Morton, 440; for the office of commissioner of public lands and bonds, C. H. Madely, 865 votes, and A. G. Kendall, 765 votes; for Congress, James Laird received 1,005, and S. V. Moore, 806 votes; for district attorney, J. M. Abbott received 1,427 votes, and W. S. Morlan, 511 votes; for Senator, A. H. Sowers was given 1,011 and A.

T. Powers, 840 votes; for representative, H. G. Armitage received 784, L. H. Trower, 747, W. C. Weaver, 719, C. W. Wilson, 688, J. G. Hayzlett, 439, and E. Koekler, 398; A. V. Cole received 1,135, and J. W. Harris 666 votes for commissioner of Second district, while H. Armstrong received 713, J. Wooster, 667, and O. C. Brown, 521; for commissioner of the Third district, W. Ackley received 490, and W. H. Lynn, 333 votes for coroner. The assessors elected were Robert Ash, L. A. Boley, D. L. Barlass, A. C. Moore, C. H. Chapman and R. S. Spicknall. The justice elected was John Merrill, of Cottonwood.

The proposed constitutional amendment received 643 votes, while 952 were cast against it.

The elections of 1883 show 1,188 votes for W. H. Morris, and 785 for R. A. Batty, candidates for district judge; 1,229 for G. W. Bemis, and 739 for J. W. Eller, candidates for district attorney; 1,203 for R. B. Tussey, and 767 for L. H. Felt for clerk of district court; 1,122 for George Spicknall, 639 for E. J. Hanchett, and 265 for Isaac Le Doyt, candidates for county clerk; 1,163 for J. B. McCleary, and 816 for W. S. Crow for treasurer; 711 for J. M. Abbott, and J. H. Fleming, 1,260, candidates for probate judge; 711 for George T. Hutchinson, and 1,266 for D. L. Barlass for sheriff; 841 for W. S. Hall, and 1,136 for A. E. Allyn for superintendent of schools; 657 for E. N. Woodford, and 1,353 for Thomas E. Farrell for surveyor; 1,988 for George B. Lloyd for coroner; 636 for H. C. Armstrong, and 1,350 for George Crane for county commissioner; 1,523 for township organization, and 146 against such organization.

The assessors elected were J. L. Kent, L. A. Boley, C. E. Hill, A. C. Moore, J. G. Holman, John Jung, R. S. Spicknall and J. A. Snyder.

The justices of the peace chosen were S. L. Brass, W. D. Prindle, L. A. Royce, W. W. McDonald and George McMillan (tie), George Colling, J. Miller and A. F. Powers.

Under the law of township organization as adopted in 1883 by a vote of 1,523 against 146, the offices of supervisor, treasurer and clerk were created, who, with the other township officers, formed the township boards, while the supervisor

was a member of the county board. Juniata gave 289 votes for this system; Kenesaw, 120; Denver, 509; Ayr, 169; Little Blue, 96; Cottonwood, 121; Silver Lake, 71, and West Blue, 148. Juniata opposed by 3 votes, Denver by 124, Ayr by 6, Little Blue by 4, Silver Lake by 8, and West Blue by 1.

The first board of supervisors, elected in November, 1883, comprised J. H. Spicer, of Juniata; W. Parmenter, of Kenesaw; W. R. McCully, George Crane and James E. Reed, of Denver; E. G. Dyer, of Ayr; H. Stammer, of Little Blue; M. A. Hargle-road, of Cottonwood; H. C. Munnix, of Silver Lake, and S. M. Frink, of West Blue.

The clerks elected in 1883 were S. L. Salsbury, D. D. Norton, F. C. Mastin, J. E. Bovard, I. M. Dean, Isaac Boyd, John P. Duncan and T. L. Monaghan, for the townships in order as given in the list of supervisors.

The treasurers chosen in 1883 for the respective townships in this order were W. D. Sewell, E. Budy, F. J. Benedict, T. J. Edgington, A. W. Waldeck, Jacob Silvers, P. H. Sailor and H. M. Palmer.

The elections of 1884* show 1,853 votes for Robert B. Harrington, 1,109 for Patrick Hines, and 114 votes for L. B. Boggs, candidates for elector on the three respective presidential tickets. James Laird received 1,796; J. H. Stickel, 1,057, and Benjamin Crab, 109 votes for Congress; James W. Dawes received 1,789; J. S. Morton, 1,171, and J. G. Miller, 114 for governor; H. H. Shedd, 1,943, and L. C. Pace, 1,121 for lieutenant governor; D. D. Norton received the third party's vote (114) for State auditor; A. H. Sowers, 1,502, H. G. Armitage, 1,398, and A. M. Hall, 143 votes for Senator of Twenty-eighth district; F. R. Olmsted, 1,665; A. V. Cole, 1,664; H. B. McGaw, 1,227; E. M. Allen, 1,253, Robert Ash, 149, and W. Woolman, 112 for representatives of Forty-seventh district. For amendment of constitution, legal department, 2,762,

contra, 92; for amendment of Section 1, executive department, 1,839; contra, 1,907.

The justices of the peace elected in 1884 are named as follows: S. M. Roberts, Ed Heine, J. M. Slater and Ed Forney, a tie vote of 93 in Denver; A. N. Hall, Joel Carter, George Colling, John Honeywell, L. Williams, W. Patterson, W. W. Phillee and I. Johnson, a tie vote in Zero, W. Stillwell, J. Fleming, B. F. Nunson, L. A. Kirk, J. B. Elrod and James Cooper.

The first regular Prohibition convention of Adams County was held September 9, 1884, with Dr. H. P. Pitch, president, and D. D. Norton, secretary. The delegates to the State convention chosen were N. L. Brass, W. H. Burr and I. Evans, of Juniata; William Woolman and Dr. Fitch, of Hastings; A. C. Williams and C. H. Madely, of West Blue; Robert Ash, of Kenesaw; C. N. Rawalt, of Denver; W. H. Winters, of Cottonwood; D. D. Norton, of Kenesaw, and A. N. Hall, of Ayr. Messrs. Henry Shedd, W. Woolman, W. H. Burr, C. H. Madely and Rev. J. Fleming were elected members of the county committee.

The supervisors elected in 1884 are named as follows: Howard Spicer, Juniata; B. F. Schlegel, Kenesaw; Warren N. Waldron, Denver; H. P. Rowe, Ayr; Samuel Arnold, Little Blue; Henry Schnelle, Hanover; S. M. Frink, West Blue; J. E. Reed, Blaine; Walter Stebbins, Highland; D. Lowman, W. R. McCully, A. H. Cramer, D. S. Fowler and C. K. Lawson, Hastings; George Crawford, Zero; A. T. Shattuck, Verona; R. M. Boyd, Roseland; J. P. Duntton, Silver Lake; L. L. Mills, Cottonwood; Amos Shattuck, Wanda, and H. C. Minnix, Logan.

The township clerks chosen for townships, in order as given above, were James Newell, L. B. Partridge, G. W. Hill, William A. Garrison, Charles Spaldron, W. H. Coltron, Elmer Simer, John Forner, Fred Johnson, F. C. Maston, R. K. Dailey, C. B. Bigelow (Frank E. Crosier and Rans. Williams received each 61 votes in Roseland), C. F. Orvis, H. H. Crone, Levi Spindler and Charles Fernow.

The township treasurers elected in 1884 were B. F. Kellogg, E. P. Gillette, T. M. White, E. M.

* The Free Trade League was organized in May, 1884, at a meeting called by S. M. Brobst, M. F. Wallace, Moses Sadler, J. B. McLaughlin, F. L. Brown, T. F. Coy, W. Sanders, C. E. Hill, A. May, E. H. Reed, A. Woolman, M. C. Ross, C. Frahm, J. Labr, N. Villmer, E. P. Jansreau, E. Foster, Griff Evans, T. W. Hoffman, W. Woolman, W. Dale, O. H. McNeil, M. Sohella, John Jones, J. N. Showen, L. Showen, Joseph Flick, A. H. Browne and G. De Lagneau.

Burton, Frank McCormick, A. W. Waldeck, Lafayette Dominy, O. A. Dungan, B. L. Kernon, W. M. Cline, Charles Jessie, B. R. Bigelow, Amos Wilson, P. H. Sailor, L. W. Swinford, E. Budy and D. F. Nicholas.

The assessors elected were J. Burwell, L. A. Boley, C. E. Hill, F. Rudley, Griff Evans, W. Binderup, John Wilson, G. P. Alford, Michael McKenney, D. H. Ballard, Adam Reeder, W. Willards, I. Boyd, R. S. Spicknall, C. P. Hargleroad, C. Wilson and D. F. Wilkinson.

The elections of 1885 give 1,829 votes to F. C. Mastin, 676 to A. Showan, and 212 to J. W. Brewster, for register of deeds; 1,409 to J. B. McCleary, 1,043 to M. M. McGrew, and 267 to Henry Shedd, for treasurer; 1,887 to George Spicknall, 377 to L. W. Swinford, and 212 to D. D. Norton, for county clerk; 1,705 to J. H. Fleming, 202 to A. T. Shattuck, 637 to W. S. McKinney, 220 to O. B. Hewett, for county judge; 1,594 to D. L. Barlass, 734 to N. J. Hengen, and 317 to J. F. Merrill, for sheriff; 1,742 to A. E. Allyn, and 1,003 to Nettie Winters, for superintendent of schools; 1,911 to Thomas E. Farrell, 219 to Solomon Favinger, and 216 to Titus Babcock, for surveyor; 1,636 to F. L. Brown, 657 to E. R. Chaffee, 216 to L. R. Markley, and 212 to J. W. Wood, for coroner. There were 744 votes cast for selling the poor farm, and 705 against its sale; 712 votes were cast for purchasing building and 539 against purchasing building.

The elections of 1886 show 1,790 votes for James Laird, 1,233 for William A. McKeighan, and 229 for C. S. Harrison, Congressional candidates in the Second district; 1,845 votes for John M. Thayer, 990 for James E. North, 239 for H. W. Harly, and 218 for G. Burrows, candidates for governor; 1,808 for H. H. Shedd, and 243 for M. K. Lewis, candidates for lieutenant-governor; 1,691 for Gilbert L. Lewis, for State secretary, and 471 for E. J. O'Neil for same office.

For Senator James B. Heartwell received 1,582 votes, M. Cleggett, 1,006, and H. P. Fitch, 688. For representative, A. V. Cole received 1,675; Hugh C. Minnix, 1,670; C. Hohlfield, 866; M. J. Sadler, 814; H. M. Palmer, 793, and H. G. Armitage, 750.

The candidates for county attorney were C. H.

Tanner, who received 1,593 votes; C. Kilburn, 651, and O. B. Hewett, 922. The vote on preference of United States Senator gave 567 to C. H. Van Wyck; 3 to James Laird; 7 to J. S. Morton.

There were 1,818 votes cast for constitutional amendment, and 399 against it.

The township elections of 1886* resulted in the return of the following named citizens to the county board of supervisors: A. S. Thompson, from Kenesaw; A. T. Shattuck, Verona; W. B. Brown, Highland; S. M. Funk, West Blue; Amos Shattuck, Wanda; James McKelog, Juniata; W. H. Waldron, Denver; W. W. Miles, F. J. Benedict, Jacob Wooster, M. Van Fleet, L. Hahn and Edward Jones, from Hastings; H. B. McGaw, Blaine; T. B. Burns, Cottonwood; Thomas Carter, Roseland; J. S. Way, Ayr; W. Theissen, Hanover; E. L. Dutton, Logan; J. P. Duncan, Silver Lake; Louis Bloomingthal, Zero, and F. C. McCormick, Little Blue.

The justices elected for the respective townships were R. Bigelow and G. W. Pratt, Ira Ford, U. S. Holderman, C. F. Keitzer, O. R. Palmer, John Plank, of Denver; W. S. McKenney, W. A. Dilworth, I. W. Cramer, J. E. Gant, Charles Doyen and D. M. McElhinney, of Hastings; E. T. Winters, L. W. Swinford, Frank Coilmann, A. N. Hall, W. Binderup; G. W. Parks and J. W. Smith had a tie vote in Logan; S. W. Nackle, Silver Lake; W. W. Philleo and C. F. Warner.

The assessors elected in 1886 were G. W. Plummer, William Willars, M. McKenna, A. C. Tompkins, of West Blue; J. T. Ragland and I. Spindler, tie in Wanda; J. Burwell, E. A. Waldron, N. B. Vineyard, S. M. Hoagland, C. F. Kidd, George Mizen, J. C. Woodworth, W. Binderup, E. S. Minnix, R. S. Spicknall, J. W. Isaac and Griff Evans.

The question of issuing bonds in aid of the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad Company was submitted in March, 1887. Little Blue gave 83 for and 24 contra; Roseland, 58 for and 52 contra; Cottonwood, 32 for and 48 contra.

*The Hastings Non-Political No License League was organized in February, 1886, with O. F. Heartwell, president; C. F. Rawalt, secretary; D. M. Leland, treasurer; W. E. McCully, Prof. J. V. Collins, C. S. Jones, R. Cory, E. M. Coover, C. L. Kirk and O. B. Hewett, executive committee. This league was supported by the W. C. T. U. of the city.

The vote in May, 1887, on issuing bonds for \$30,000, the proceeds to be devoted to building a county jail, was 758, and against the proposition, 405, the returns from Little Blue not being in at time of canvassing.

The vote in June, 1887, on the proposition to issue bonds to aid in the construction of the Pacific Railroad in Nebraska, and to provide for principal and interest by direct tax, was 3,272 for and 4,120 against.

The elections of November, 1887, show 2,028 votes for William Gaslin, Jr., and 310 for O. B. Hewett, candidates for judge of Eighth district; 1,794 for J. H. Spicer, 977 for R. B. Tussey, and 328 for Mrs. Jennie B. Holland, candidates for clerk of the district court; 1,969 for David L. Barlass, 959 for Thomas Carter, and 201 for W. B. Hamilton, for sheriff; 1,756 for Charles H. Paul, 1,237 for M. M. McGrew, and 158 for Peter Griffith, candidates for treasurer; 1,947 for L. B. Partridge, 1,001 for J. P. Duncan, and 197 for D. D. Norton, candidates for county clerk; 1,739 for F. C. Martin, 313 for V. Edwards, 173 for J. W. Brewster, and 886 for J. N. Smith, candidates for register of deeds; 1,965 for J. H. Fleming, 1,001 for Chris Hoepner and 196 for William L. Parmenter, for county judge; 1,864 for A. E. Allyn, 1,049 for John Stevens, 219 for Nettie Winter, candidates for superintendent of schools; Thomas E. Farrell was elected surveyor without opposition; F. L. Browne received 1,961, C. M. William, 944, and L. L. Ames, 248 for coroner.

The supervisors elected were S. A. Sayre, of Kenesaw; S. G. Johnson, Verona; William B. Brown, Highland; A. F. Powers, West Blue; Francis Phillipi, Wanda; James McKelvey and Ed Kroeger received 116 votes each in Juniata; W. H. Waldron, Denver; L. Hahn received 160; C. E. Apgar, 142; W. M. Breed, 139; W. M. Paine, 137, and Chris Hansen, 135 in Hastings City; D. B. Snodgrass, Blaine; H. P. Johnson, Cottonwood; T. W. Carter, Roseland; J. E. Woodworth, Ayr; Henry Stammer, Hanover; J. F. Fernon, Logan; B. F. Munson, Silver Lake; Adam Reeder, Zero; F. P. Harrison, Little Blue.

The assessors elected in 1887, in the order of townships as given in list of supervisors, are named

as follows: A. C. Moore, William Willers, M. McKinney, A. C. Tompkins, J. M. Sandford, John Burwell, F. M. White, W. W. Miles, S. M. Hoagland, H. W. Crone, George E. Mizen, W. Houston, W. Binderup, E. S. Minnix, R. S. Spicknall, S. F. Reed, Griffith Evans.

The justices of the peace elected in 1887, in the same order of townships were: J. G. Hayzlett, R. Bigelow, V. Kernon, A. F. Powers, M. McQuinlan, A. R. Palmer; H. H. Ballou and W. S. Miles received 67 votes each in Denver; D. M. McElhinney, J. Forner, G. J. Holman, M. J. Stoetzel, G. M. Bechtelheimer, L. Calhoun, James Cooper, H. J. Miller, W. W. Philleo, J. K. Deane; J. E. Pierce was chosen justice in the Second ward of Hastings; N. B. Vinyard and L. A. Royce received 307 votes each in the Third ward, and R. V. Shirley was chosen in the Fourth ward.

The vote for presidential electors in 1888 was 1,282 for C. W. Allen and four others; 1,029 for George H. Hastings and four others; 375 for James R. Carey and four others, and 230 for C. W. Wheeler and four others. For Congress, James Laird received 1,800; William G. Hastings, 1,315; George Scott, 435, and R. H. Rohr, 211. For governor, John M. Thayer received 1,887; John A. McShane, 1,339; George E. Bigelow, 376, and David Butler, 209. For Senator, Frank D. Taggart received 1,529; W. A. Jones, 1,218; Samuel Alexander, 665, and Francis Phillips, 311. For representative Forty-fifth district, Fred P. Olmsted received 1,737; Herman D. Einspahr, 1,280; D. D. Norton, 466, and J. B. Koch, 268. For representative Forty-sixth district, Leopold Hahn, 1,708; Frank C. Buschow, 1,236; J. B. Elrod, 471, and J. F. Merrill, 289. For county attorney, John A. Casto received 1,889; George W. Tibbits, 1,296; John Snider, 372, and George Lynn, 235.

The vote on the issue of bonds for the purpose of building a court-house and jail, and the levy of a tax to pay principal and interest of such bonds, was 1,416 for, and 1,044 contra. Kenesaw gave 11; Highland, 10; West Blue, 22; Juniata, 5; Denver, 14; Blaine, 20; Roseland, 8; Ayr, 6; Hanover, 8; Logan, 2; Zero, 9; Little Blue, 7, and Hastings, 1,301 votes for the proposition. Kenesaw gave

108; Verona, 66; Highland, 51; West Blue, 20; Wanda, 73; Juniata, 239; Denver, 35; Blaine, 12; Cottonwood, 69; Roseland, 94; Ayr, 73; Hanover, 34; Logan, 54; Silver Lake, 33; Zero, 27; Little Blue, 49, and Hastings City, 7 against the proposition.

The supervisors elected in 1888 were the following: S. A. Sayre, Kenesaw (161 votes cast); William Willars, Verona (122); M. McKenna, Highland (158); A. F. Powers, West Blue (142); Fred. Einspahr, Wanda (126); Ed. F. Gettle, Juniata (281); D. C. Kerr, Denver (140); D. B. Snodgrass, Blaine (123); C. R. Hohlfeld, Cottonwood (91); Charles Grebe, Roseland (122); W. C. Hodges, Ayr (168); John Clute, Hanover (122); J. F. Fernon, Logan (83); W. E. Huslin, Silver Lake (95); A. Reeder, Zero (91); T. T. Jones, Little Blue (114). Warren Letson, F. J. Benedict, James Strickland, D. W. Palmer, received the highest number of votes in their respective wards of Hastings.

The assessors elected in 1888, in the order of townships, as observed in list of supervisors, were: J. Coulter, E. J. Hanchett, A. C. Tompkins, G. W. Wolcott, W. E. Shaver, C. E. Hill, S. M. Hoagland, Mark Schroeder, W. E. Stoetzel, William Huston, W. Binderup, G. W. Maxwell, R. S. Spicknall, J. W. Isaac, W. Washbourn and E. P. Nellis.

The justices elected in 1888, for the respective townships, were: J. G. Hayzlett, H. J. Strait, L. Shepherd, E. Hemenover, Jacob J. Lauerman, D. R. Ball, J. R. Lefever (no election for this office reported in Blaine), Gaylord Wright, John Young, A. N. Hall (no election for this office in Hanover), D. F. Nicholas, Logan; R. N. Kinsey, Silver Lake; H. Weatherax, Zero (no election for this office in Little Blue); George W. Spicknall received a majority of votes in First ward, Robert Morledge in Second ward, and E. E. Sawyer in Fourth ward, of Hastings.

The supervisors elected in 1889 were John L. Stoner (70), * Kenesaw; W. J. Willars (111), Verona; M. McKenna (87), Highland; A. F. Powers (113), West Blue; H. Fred Einspahr (75), Wanda; Ed F. Gettle (245), Juniata; John T. Barr (113),

Denver; B. B. Snodgrass (76), Blaine; C. R. Hohlfeld (48), Cottonwood; J. P. Duncan (121), Roseland; J. Hill (94), Ayr; John Gordon (100), Hanover; H. C. Minnix (79), Logan; W. P. Clawson (84), Silver Lake; Lester Warmuth (121), Zero; T. T. Jones (97), Little Blue. D. H. Ballard received 818 votes; W. M. Vastine, 814; F. J. Benedict, 811; D. M. McElhinney, 811; W. A. Dilworth, 801, R. V. Shockey, 803, and Ed Burton, 681.

The assessors elected in 1889, in the order above given, are named as follows: A. C. Moore, E. J. Hanchett, J. C. Millikin, A. C. Tompkins, George W. Wolcott, W. E. Shaver, T. J. Taylor, S. M. Hoagland, George Slay, A. E. Stoetzel, M. N. Kress, J. Madson, G. W. Maxwell, R. S. Spicknall, W. Blumenthall, William Washbourne, and E. P. Nellis re-elected in Hastings.

The justices of the peace elected in 1889 were W. E. Latta, B. F. Barr, A. R. Pearson, J. Wilson, J. J. Lauerman (O. R. Palmer and D. R. Ball received 149 votes each in Juniata), S. W. Niles, H. B. McGaw, C. Larson, T. W. Carter, W. S. Wiloughby, G. Collings, N. B. Clark, C. F. Orris, W. W. Philleo; S. Bechtelheimer, in the townships. A. C. Moore (R. R. Morledge and N. S. Rohrer received each 201 votes), N. B. Vinyard and J. C. Williams received the majority votes in their respective wards at Hastings.

The township clerks elected in 1889 are P. E. Hatch, Kenesaw; Frank Sutter, Verona; Thomas Wynne, Highland; W. J. Huxtable, West Blue; Leo Portz, Wanda; F. E. Kelly, Juniata; William Brodley, Denver; F. V. Nash, Blaine; W. T. Carson, Cottonwood; Charles Hohlfeld, Roseland; Dan Bitner, Ayr; J. M. Dean, Hanover; Eli Jenkins, Logan; Frank McDonald, Silver Lake; R. Ratcliff, Zero, and Griffith Evans, Little Blue.

The township treasurers elected in 1889 were J. B. Cook, Kenesaw; D. R. Bigelow, Verona; Herman Bertert, Highland; H. M. Palmer, West Blue; Peter C. Einspahr, Wanda; Gilbert Faber, Juniata; S. A. Nash, Denver; John Forner, Blaine; C. B. Powers, Cottonwood; W. F. Duncan, Roseland; W. J. Clark, S. Bauder, W. E. Munson, Logan; H. M. McClure, Silver Lake; Chris Kork, Zero, and B. K. West, Little Blue.

* The vote given for the townships is the total vote.

The elections of November, 1889, show 1,668 votes for Norval (R); 1,170 for Ames (D), and 221 for Wigton (P), candidates for supreme judge; 1,691 for Laws (R), 1,151 for Casper (D), and 190 for Bentley (P), candidates for Congress; 1,760 for C. H. Paul (R), 1,057 for Phillips (D), and 198 for Waldron (P), candidates for county treasurer; 1,756 for Patridge (R), 1,088 for Breed (D), and 196 for Hoagland (P), candidates for county clerk; 1,641 for Wilson (R); 1,207 for Brown (D), and 204 for Norton (P), candidates for recorder; 1,687 for Cramer (R); 1,159 for Kelly (D) and 191 for Armstrong (P), candidates for sheriff; 1,759 for Burton (R), 1,117 for Lynn (D), and 164 for Hewitt (P), candidates for county judge; 1,860 for Betteys (R), and 298 for Jones (P), candidates for superintendent of schools; 1,738 for Irwin (R), 1,111 for McKenney (D), and 219 for Putt (P), candidates for office of coroner; 1,758 for Woodward (R), and 197 for Orvis (P), candidates for surveyor.

The pioneer journal of Adams County was the Gazette, issued at Juniata in 1872. It was established solely to defend the old county seat against all assailants, and to cry down all opposition to the little village of the prairie. In 1873 the Journal was founded at Hastings. It was superior to the Gazette as a local newspaper; but, like the pioneer paper, defended its new town of Hastings against all the assaults of the press and people of Juniata. In 1876 the Times was issued at Kenesaw and there were three Richmonds in the field. As newspapers the publishers overlooked thousands of interesting incidents, while singing the praises of their respective districts. They were expert songsters, each having his own scale. They never sung in harmony. After the second paper was established the county seat war was begun, and the third paper presented itself in time to act the part of home guard. A few years later the Bohemians, with all their faults and their many virtues, came, and the little newspaper world of Adams County extended its dominion. The adopted sons of Bohemia, following fancy's bright stream, ignoring the honors of thrift and trade, condemning the iced charity given in the name of a business-like statistical God, helping a brother in want, and always hoping to live and die

in Bohemia, came hither to preach their theories. Some of them failed in the Bohemian land, some prospered and are here to-day. The Gazette deserted the waning cause of Juniata, and the Times came all the way from distant Kenesaw. The latter was merged into the Nebraskan and the former into the Journal.

The consolidation of the warring journals was effected in January, 1880, by A. L. and J. W. Wigton, who conducted the Gazette-Journal until the organization of the stock company in the fall of 1882, when work on a new office building was commenced. In the spring of 1883 the building was completed and taken possession of, and in August of that year the Daily Gazette-Journal was issued. The Gazette-Journal Publishing Company was re-organized in September, 1885, with E. C. Webster, president; J. V. Heartwell, vice-president; C. P. Webster, treasurer; Samuel Alexander, secretary, and J. O. Fisher, manager. A. L. Wigton continued on the directors' board, and C. F. Royce, editor. The office was improved in many departments, new type, presses and bindery machinery introduced, and the stock of paper and printing material increased. In October the Daily Gazette-Journal was enlarged to a twenty-eight column paper, and a regular system of delivery adopted.

In 1886 an addition of forty-four feet was made to the building of 1882-83, and the present arrangement of departments adopted by J. O. Fisher, the manager.

C. F. Royce came to Hastings from Iowa in 1878. He purchased the Sunday Gazette-Journal in 1889, and is still managing editor of that paper.

Miles K. Lewis, born in Genesee County, N. Y., in 1825, located 400 acres of land near Hastings in 1873, and the same year entered the field of journalism with A. L. Wigton in the publication of the Journal. Early in 1875 he determined to give attention to his lands, but in 1878 returned to the city and established the Lewis Patent Grain Header factory. A reference to the several chapters on Adams County history will give the details of Mr. Lewis' connection with this section of the State. On July 30, 1874, R. A. Dague issued his greeting as partner of Mr. Wigton in the publication of the Journal,

the latter being alone in the management since February 26, 1874. Later that year John and Emma Leonard, employees of the office since its beginning, left for Texas. On January 7, 1875, Mr. Wigton sold his half interest to Dague, but on October 14, 1875, the pioneer editor resumed sole ownership, when W. F. J. Comly was appointed associate editor.

During the year 1875 the county seat war was confined for a time to the pages of this Journal and the Gazette.

The destruction of the Gazette office and contents occurred July 29, 1889. Insurance on building and stock, although heavy, did not cover the total loss. Owing to the efficiency of the fire department the Oliver building was saved, although at one time in possession of the fire fiend.

The Central Nebraskan was issued February 8, 1878, by A. D. Williams and M. J. Abbott. In their salutatory they speak of the success which attended the Kenesaw Times during its existence for the eighteen months prior to February 8, 1878, when the Nebraskan succeeded it. The publishers further state: "The Times was a sort of by-play with us. We expect to give more time and energy to the Nebraskan. * * * It will be Republican in politics. * * * We desire both specie payment and the remonetizing of silver; not because we deem either gold or silver a desirable currency, but for the purpose of making the greenback equal to the gold dollar or any other." Some days after Abbott called on Mr. Clarke at the bank for proceeds of note left for collection, and was handed seventy-five silver dollars. He scratched his head a little, but without further comment took away the load of metal. In March, 1878, A. D. Williams' name appears as sole owner, and on November 8, I. D. Evans became associated with him. With No. 1 of Volume II of the Central Nebraskan, February 4, 1879, was ushered in the era of semi-weekly journals here.

No. 1, Vol. I, Daily Nebraskan, was issued May 3, 1880, by A. D. Williams, who in his salutatory says: "Well! here we are—the Hastings Daily Nebraskan—and with associated press dispatches several hours ahead of any other source. Arrangements have been made by which we shall, in any

event, run the Daily during the presidential campaign. It is for the citizens, and especially the business men of Hastings, to say whether it shall continue as a permanent institution of the city. This arrangement will do away with the semi-weekly edition, and the weekly will assume its old quarto or double form."

The salutatory of A. T. Bratton, as publisher of the Nebraskan (weekly), appeared June 21, 1883. In this he says: "Politically we have always lent allegiance to the Republican party. * * * Our doctrine is 'live and let live.' There are substantial rights which labor is demanding, and which, when properly formulated and understood, must and will be recognized, simply because they are founded in eternal justice." In this issue the verdict of guilty, returned by the jury in the trial of William B. Thorne, for embezzling \$22,000, is given. In the local columns is a report of the first annual literary entertainment by the students of Hastings' College, and a programme of the Fourth of July festivities at Ayr.

The Adams County Democrat was issued July 10, 1880, by Richard Thompson, who in his salutatory says: "The question of establishing a Democratic newspaper in Adams County is a question that has been agitated for some time. The enterprise in all its bearings has been thoroughly discussed. The question as to whether there was a demand for such a paper, and whether it would pay, were the principal points. These having been settled the Democrat makes its appearance as a Democratic journal. Its mission is not to pull down and destroy, but to build up—to represent the real interests of the party and this great country." The Wahlquist Brothers (R. B. and G. L.) are the present owners of this journal. Mr. Le Doiyt, for many years connected with the press, and one of the old settlers of Hastings, is a member of the staff of the Democrat.

The Nebraska Volksfreund dates back to 1883. On April 13, 1886, the office was purchased by William Breed, who settled at Hastings in 1874, and in November, 1889, by P. N. Carson, who issued No. 26 of Vol. VII, December 19, 1889. At the close of January, 1890, this journal suspended publication.

The Hastings College Review for December, 1883, was edited by F. R. Dungan, assisted by Prof. G. E. White, J. H. H. Hewitt, A. D. Raney, Alice Yocum, O. A. Farnham, T. J. McCully and G. A. Birdsall. Miss Ada F. Nowlan contributed a paper on Beethoven.

The Vidette is the college journal of the students. It was first issued in 1885.

The Hastings Independent was issued July 3, 1886, by Frank Taggart, manager, and Isaac Le Doiyt, editor. In the salutatory the editor says: "The Independent comes before you as an independent family newspaper. Politically we shall hold that measures are above men, and shall support such men only as we think will best subserve the common good. On March 12, 1887, the office was purchased by A. L. Wigton and A. H. Brown, and this journal entered the Republican ranks.

The Nebraska Newspaper Union was established at Hastings in March, 1888, with the view of supplying to the local press ready printed matter or whole editions of weekly newspapers. Beyond the organization little was accomplished, although the field is here and Hastings has railroad communication with it in all its parts.

The Hastings Republican was issued January 12, 1889, by C. L. and F. A. Watkins. In their salutatory they outline their politics in the following paragraph: "The Hastings Republican as a name mirrors a true image of the political features of this journal. The Republican expects to have the courage of its convictions. When an opinion is urged by the stress of demand it will be given without fear or favor, but given with due deference to the honest judgment and motives of its readers." This modest little paragraph was well received and the Republican won its way into favor. The issue averages about 1,200 weekly. The whole paper is printed at Hastings.

Hastings Tribune, No. 1, Vol. I., was issued November 16, 1889, by R. Thompson, who established the Democrat in 1880, and Allen P. Brown, of Clay County. Within a month the Tribune established itself as a journal full of news, and one capable of drawing a very fine line between the sacred and profane. The Christmas of 1889 ap-

pears to have made a favorable impression on Brother Dick, for, on December 27, he makes on his editorial page, the following modest proposition: "The Tribune office is greatly in need of a popular book, written by several well-known authors. The work is one of mutual interest and has been read, more or less, by thousands of people. It is familiarly known as the Bible, or word of God. We were, at one time, the owner of this valuable work, but it was pilfered by some unknown wretch. To any one who will kindly furnish us with a volume of this valuable work we will send them a copy of this great moral and family newspaper. This proposition will be open until January first only. An illustrated edition preferred!"

The Daily Press was issued November 24, 1889, by the Press Publishing Company—J. W. Kinsella, president and manager; W. B. Palmer, secretary and treasurer, and Walt Mason, editor.

The Press was a most aggressive morning journal and made enemies daily. The old Nebraskan was even driven to oppose it determinedly; so that, notwithstanding its newsy character, it had to collapse, the last copy being issued December 12, 1889.

The Trade Book, a periodical devoted to the interests of real estate agents and property owners, is issued by F. E. Garratt in January, April, July and October each year, No. 29 being issued in October.

In January, 1890, a report was current that a new weekly journal was to be established in the interest of the Union Labor movement.

The Adams County Gazette made its appearance at Juniata, in January, 1872, by C. C. and R. D. Babcock. In 1876 the office was removed to Hastings. In November, 1880, Charles Kelley and J. W. Short purchased the office, and they, in December of that year, sold to W. L. Wigton & Brother, who consolidated it with the Journal under the name Gazette-Journal. During its career of four years at Juniata it espoused the claims of that town against all opposition, but deserted when the enemy attacked in force, and moved into their headquarters.

R. D. Babcock, born in Monroe County, Mich., in 1846, served from 1863 to 1865 with the Eleventh Michigan Cavalry and Sixth United States Colored Cavalry, and, in 1871, settled in Juniata precinct,

where he entered a quarter-section. In December he was elected county clerk, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in July, 1876. In January, 1872, he and C. C. Babcock established the Adams County Gazette, which they continued to publish at Juniata until the fall of 1876, when the office was moved to Hastings. On Mr. Babcock's removal to Hastings he resumed the practice of law, making land laws a specialty.

The Juniata Herald was issued October 25, 1876, by the Citizens Company, with A. H. Brown, editor. The office was sold to G. S. Guild, September 15, 1877. William Knickerbocker purchased the office July 23, 1880. He was followed by J. W. Liveringhouse and F. W. Francis. On the latter's death in March, 1884, I. H. Rickel, the present publisher, purchased the paper.

The Ayr Times was established January 14, 1882, by C. L., G. M., and F. A. Watkins.

A. H. Brown, who in 1868 established the People's Journal at Vinton, Iowa, settled in Juniata precinct, August 16, 1872, where he resided on his 160-acre homestead for a year, when he was elected county superintendent of schools. From 1873 to

1876 he was editor of the Gazette, and when the Herald was established by the citizens, in the fall of 1876, he was appointed editor.

The Kenesaw Times was founded June 8, 1876, by A. D. Williams, and continued publication there until 1878, when it was merged into the Central Nebraskan of Hastings. It appears, however, that a second paper of the same name was established in 1883.

The Holstein Record was issued April 13, 1889, by the Holstein Publishing Company. This journal is devoted to the interests of the village and neighborhood and is considered a good advertising medium for the locality.

The Holstein Nonpareil is the name of a little paper started in January, 1890, at the place named. W. T. Carson is the manager.

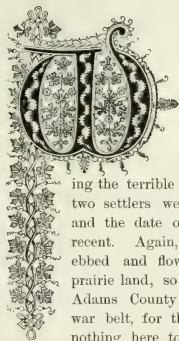
The third newspaper office ever built in Adams County, the Central Nebraskan, in 1877-78, on Third Street, was torn down in May, 1885, to make way for the new block at the corner of that street and Lincoln Avenue. The first printing office was erected for the Juniata Gazette in 1872, and the third for the Hastings Journal in 1873.



CHAPTER XV.

MILITARY HISTORY—SURVIVORS OF THE CIVIL WAR—ROSTER OF SOLDIERS—STRICKLAND POST—JUNIATA POST—HANSEN POST—KENESAW POST—COMPANY F—ASSOCIATIONS AND SOCIETIES—REUNIONS, ETC.

The mighty rivals, whose destructive rage
Did the whole world in civil arms engage,
Are now agreed.—*Roscommon.*



WHILE the Rebellion occupied the attention of a number of the present citizens of Adams County, none of its native white residents have been engaged in warfare. During the terrible years of civil strife only two settlers were within its boundaries and the date of their location was then recent. Again, the tide of Civil War ebbed and flowed far away from this prairie land, so it may be truly said of Adams County that it was outside the war belt, for the reason that there was nothing here to antagonize. The Sioux in their attack on the California Trail carried their war to the very lines of the county, south and east, destroying the property of the settlers, killing some and carrying others to a captivity far worse than death. A few years more and the county is filled with veterans of the greatest war known in history. Round the summer camps of the pioneers, stories of Gettysburg, South Mountain, Shiloh, the march to the sea, Wilderness, Pea Ridge, Vicksburg and a hundred other well-fought fields are told; but there is no war. The soldiers have laid aside the rifle and sword and taken up the plow-share. They are the harbingers of peace—the pioneers of progress. The story of the war has been told in

thousands of volumes and in tens of thousands of written reminiscences. The results of that war are accepted forever. Here may be given the names of participants in the struggle for preserving the Union, only so far as local records permit. It is a list of soldiers associated together in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic. A few decades and such names will be searched for in vain, like those of the Revolution and other wars marking the first century of the Republic.

The question of organizing a post of the G. A. R. was considered at a soldiers' meeting held at Millett's Hall, April 18, 1878. C. H. Paul presided, with E. Steinau, secretary; a committee, comprising J. N. Lyman, F. S. Wells and the officers named, was appointed to obtain a charter. The charter was duly granted, and on May 13, 1878, Strickland Post No. 19 was organized with T. D. Scofield, commander; C. H. Paul, S. V. C.; W. H. Brown, J. V. C.; J. N. Lyman, Q. M.; A. H. Sowers, surgeon; F. S. Wells, chaplain; L. C. Palmer, adjutant; John D. Crane, S. M.; E. Steinau, Q. M. S.

Post No. 13, G. A. R., met October 5, 1880, for re-organization. A. C. Yocum was elected P. C.; A. H. Bowen, S. V. C.; James Walling, J. V. C.; A. H. Sowers, surgeon; W. H. Stock, Q. M.; L. B. Palmer, adjutant; George F. Work, chaplain; A. Poole, O. G.; W. W. Dungan, O. D.; R. R. Morledge, Q. M. S.; A. S. Hill, S. M., and A. L. Wigton, A. A. M. O., and four unofficial members.

The roster of the post is as follows, the eighteen first named being charter members:

S. Alexander, 1st Neb. Inf. A. L. Wigton, 88th O. Inf. W. W. Dungan, 5th Ia. Inf. Geo. F. Work, 5th Ia. Inf. E. M. Abbott, 84th Ill. Inf. A. D. Yocum, 17th O. Inf. Geo. Miller, 15th U. S. Inf. J. D. Crane, 5th N. Y. Art. L. B. Palmer, 63d Ill. Inf. A. F. Benjamin, 157th N. Y. Inf. W. S. Martin, 83d O. Inf. Alex. Rogers, 54th Ill. Inf. A. H. Sowers, 14th O. Inf. David Koch, 23d Mo. Inf. N. Lyman. J. F. Heiler, 26th Ill. Inf. J. F. Ross, U. S. Navy. F. S. Wells, U. S. Navy. T. D. Scofield, 27th M. S. S. C. L. Stone, Chicago M. Bat. H. Shedd, 117th N. Y. Inf. A. Poole, 11th Wis. Vol. James Walling, 149th N. Y. Inf. J. Wooster, 36th O. Inf. H. B. Tanner, 17th Mo. Inf. Henry Williams, 78th N. Y. Inf. H. A. Forcht, Merrill's Horse. J. E. Hutchinson, 4th Ia. Batt. W. H. Stock, 17th Ill. Cav. R. R. Morledge, 4th Ia. Inf. A. H. Bowen, 4th Mich. Inf. A. S. Hill, 3d Wis. Inf. Carl Clark, 83d Ill. Inf. E. H. Bartlett, 1st Ia. Cav. J. T. Ross, 14th Ind. Inf. W. H. H. Coulter, 8th Mo. Inf. J. Stebbler. N. C. Barlow, 95th Ill. Inf. A. G. Willis, 2d Ia. Cav. C. L. Kinkaid, 1st Ia. Cav. J. H. Hursch, 195th Pa. Inf. S. Rhinhardt, 2d Mich. Inf. H. B. McGaw, 97th O. Inf. A. J. Millet, 12th Ia. Inf. Wm. Callahan, 28th Pa. Inf. John M. Boyd, 61st Pa. Inf. Chas. H. Paul. F. M. Clark, 8th O. Inf. W. C. Beal, 9th Mich. Inf. J. A. Snyder, 7th Wis. Inf. S. H. Henderson, 24th Ia. Inf. J. C. B. Sperry, 4th Wis. Art. L. L. Cline, 5th Pa. H. A. Jos. S. Land, 16th Mich. Inf. J. P. Hoagland, 132d Pa. Inf. R. D. Babcock, 11th Mich. Cav. W. H. Griffith, 1st Mich. Inf. Edward Orton, 7th Ill. Inf.	James T. Farrer, 10th Ia. Inf. Isaac A. Hall, 101st N. Y. Inf. Henry Jewett, 47th Ill. Inf. H. E. Houghtallings, 10th Wis. Inf. James Ross, 2d Ia. Inf. Alfred Martinis, 202d Pa. Inf. Wm. Monroe, 13th Wis. Inf. W. R. Saine, 17th O. Inf. D. H. Holmes, Merrill's Horse H. Bromley, 92d N. Y. Inf. H. G. Wetherill, 96th N. Y. Inf. H. G. Nights, 36th Ia. Inf. D. B. Wirt, 46th Ind. Inf. Geo. H. Hurd, 37th Ill. Inf. J. W. Coulter, 33d Ill. Inf. W. H. Scott, 60th O. Inf. W. A. Smith, 16th Ky. Inf. S. B. Whitman, 2d U. S. S. J. D. Van Houten, 5th Ill. Cav. W. H. Marshall, 140th Ill. Inf. J. R. Sims, 203d Pa. Inf. Samuel Long, 20th Wis. Inf. Peter Zobel, 32d Ind. Inf. John R. Winter, 186th O. Inf. J. O. Garmon, 19th Mich. Inf. J. P. Sackison, 40th Ill. Inf. A. A. Adams, 22d V. R. C. Milton C. Ross, 3d Ia. Inf. S. C. Dilley, U. S. Art. Griffin Yeatman, 1st Del. Inf. Richard Conquest, 1st Col. Cav. Wm. H. Reed, 30th Ill. Inf. A. M. Eager, 124th N. Y. Inf. B. F. Noll, 20th Ill. Inf. Peter Newcomb, 129th Ind. Inf. Anson Forbes, 1st Mich. Eng. F. M. Alexander, 26th Ind. Inf. A. H. Brown, 13th Ia. Inf. Wm. Worline. James Steffins, 15th Ill. Inf. Lewis D. Reynolds. Henry P. Klinger, 47th Ill. Inf. Robt. B. Williams. Frank Dalby, 2d O. Inf. J. T. Briggs, 77th Ill. Inf. Stephen Mason, 104th Ill. Inf. John G. Burgeroff, 49th Ill. Inf. Wm. C. Hodges, 41st O. Inf.	L. S. Gould, 73d Ill. Inf. W. H. Colton, 45th Ill. Inf. I. W. Cramer, 30th Wis. Inf. Hart Livingstone, 99th Ind. Inf. J. Hodges, 14th O. Inf. F. C. Mastin, 153d Ill. Inf. Geo. M. Rogers, 18th Wis. Inf. Fred Rinker, 64th Ill. Inf. F. S. Browning, 1st Ill. Art. L. H. Tate, 8th Mass. Art. Jonathan Carter, 17th Mich. Inf. J. B. McCleary, 1st Col. Cav. W. C. Ridley, 118th O. Inf. Nicholas Corbin, 7th Mo. Cav. N. A. Nash, 42d Wis. Inf. G. A. Whitman, 72d Ill. Inf. P. Allender, 58th Ill. Inf. C. M. Millett, 65th N. Y. Inf. G. W. Dade, 19th Mass. Inf. C. H. Hurd, 2d Pa. Inf. Henry Van Fleet, 27th Mich. Inf. James Corliss, 42d Mo. Inf. F. L. Stock, 142d Ill. Inf. C. B. Nelson, 1st N. Y. Eng. Geo. V. Cope, 10th Mich. Inf. D. M. Leland, 24th Ia. Inf. T. F. Pearl, 21st N. Y. Cav. George P. Alford, 27th O. Inf. Myron Van Fleet, 30th Mich. Inf. Byron S. Morrell, 64th N. Y. Inf. Thomas F. Coy, 26th Ky. Inf. Wm. Hoioks, 20th Wis. Inf. Edwin Burroughs, 42d Ill. Inf. C. J. Delnitt, 35th Ill. Inf. M. H. Batty, 3d N. Y. H. A. M. W. Peters, 1st Wis. Inf. Fred Stoelling, 20th Wis. Inf. O. B. Hewett, 2d Neb. Cav. J. B. Bassett, 160th N. Y. Inf. Wm. Croft, 6th Mich. Inf. Nick Zimmer, 36th Ill. Inf. John Yeager, 12th Ill. Inf. H. L. Grisell, 75th Ind. Inf. J. H. Darnell, 48th Ill. Inf. L. U. Albershardt, 72d O. Inf. John Weytman, 13th Kan. Inf. T. J. Dowd, 3d Wis. Inf. D. S. Wilkinson, 7th Wis. Inf. G. E. Douglass, 157th N. Y. Inf.	Charles Dominic, 20th Pa. Cav. U. K. Brown, 53d Pa. Inf. H. M. Carpenter, 15th Mass. Inf. Joseph A. Palmer, 54th Mass. Inf. West Montgomery, 1st Neb. Inf. J. O. Beebe, 1st R. I. L. A. H. S. Rogers, 14th Ia. Inf. John D. Hayes, Berdine's S. S. J. J. Buchanan, 3d Mo. Cav. John Stabler. Samuel K. Sample. Isaac E. Dorsey, 30th O. Inf. Albert S. Pierce, 17th V. R. C. S. H. Snively, 1st Pa. Cav. A. C. Moore, 5th Ia. Inf. J. H. Knight, 3d Ind. Cav. H. G. Mills, 102d Ill. Inf. Seth Lewis, 6th N. Y. H. D. Joseph Marston, 46th Ill. Inf. N. R. Burton. A. Benedict, 65th Ill. Inf. James Meadows, 51st Mo. Inf. G. F. Ranall, 8th Minn. Inf. B. S. Morgan, 2d Ky. Cav. Geo. N. Waller, 61st Ill. Inf. James E. Bence, 67th O. Inf. Alfred Burge, 42d Ill. Inf. Geo. Stratton, 3d N. Y. Inf. Josiah Lee, 40th Ia. Inf. Jacob B. Boyer, 84th Ill. Inf. Frank Kearney, 106th N. Y. Inf. F. M. Hickok, 11th Ia. Inf. James Gibson, Art. Jesse Doty, 54th O. Inf. Calvin Sowers, 6th O. Inf. Frank Hartman, 1st Ill. Art. Chas. Nute, 2d D. C. Inf. W. H. Chadwick, 20th Mich. Eng. C. B. Kemple, 86th Ill. Inf. C. W. DeRocher, 3d Mo. Inf. W. S. Reaser, 151st O. Inf. W. C. Beale, 9th N. Y. Inf. G. W. Spay, 38th Ill. Inf. Geo. R. Wolf, 175th O. Inf. W. H. Akenum, 186th N. Y. Inf. L. C. Shields, 2d Kan. Inf. H. E. W. Deremus, 2d Col. Cav. J. W. Forbs, 143d Ill. Inf. James Milman, 5th Wis. Inf. James T. Johnson, 17th Ill. Inf. James T. Reuther, 8th Ill. Inf. Oliver Wright, 106th N. Y. Inf.
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A list of soldiers buried in Hastings Cemetery, given in the record of this post, is as follows: G. W. Howe, Col. Burke, Otto Arnoux, — Keating, Levi W. Miller, —

Riggs, — Alexander, Stephen Carson, C. M. Millet, N. A. Nash, J. W. Hansel, James McLeary, James Riley, J. H. Scott, Aug. Poole, Capt. Wicks, George Brennan, — Palmer, — Cope, — Pearson, Joseph Howe and Willis Campbell.

In January, 1888, James Gibson was adjutant and W. R. Burton, commander. In December of that year H. G. Knight was elected commander; H. M. Carpenter, S. V. C.; Frank Kearney, J. V. C.; Jacob Wooster, Q. M.; I. W. Cramer, O. of D.; Byron S. Morrell, surgeon; W. S. Beale, I. G.; S. H. Snively, O. G.; T. F. Pearl and J. R. Hursh, delegates, with J. L. Kline and J. E. Bruce, alternates; John Winters, O. of G. Byron S. Morrell was subsequently appointed adjutant, and Dr. Pierce appointed surgeon to fill vacancy; J. R. Wright, chaplain; George Stratton, S. M.; J. M. Boyd, Q. M. S., and W. C. Beale, sentinel,

The following officers were elected in December, 1889: A. H. Brown, B. S. Morrell, G. M. Rogers, W. R. Burton, D. M. Leland, F. M. Alexander, Mr. Snively, J. M. Boyd, Mr. Beal, John Winter, T. F. Pearl and J. R. Hursh, delegates, and A. C. Moore and I. W. Cramer, alternates. George Stratton was appointed adjutant.

Strickland Post elected A. Poole, captain; I. W. Cramer, first and J. Hursh, second lieutenant of the drill company of twenty-four, who proposed to compete for the prize tent offered by the department.

Juniata Post of the G. A. R. was instituted October 24, 1881, under the title of Geary Post No. 82, with B. F. Smith, commander; S. L. Salisbury, S. V. C.; A. H. Brown, J. V. C.; J. W. Liveringhouse, adjutant; G. T. Brown, Q. M.; O. Steever, surgeon; W. Spade, chaplain; A. V. Cole, O. of D.; H. H. Ballou, O. of G.; G. S. Guild, S. M., and M. Van Buskirk, Q. M. S. Philip Hoover, R. H. Nolan, S. J. Shirley, S. L. Brass, G. Avery, F. M. Thompson, B. W. Hammond, G. T. Brown, W. Twidale and James Newell unofficial members. The position of commander has been filled by the following named members: B. F. Smith, A. V. Cole, S. L. Brass, James Newell, J. Burwell, O. Steever, James L. Kelvey and I. R. Ball. S. L. Brass is the present adjutant.

The roll of members comprises the following names:

B. F. Smith, 1st Mich. S. S.
A. H. Brown, 13th O. Inf.
O. Stevers, 96th N. Y. Inf.
G. S. Guild, Mass. Inf.
Wm. Spade, 147th Pa. Inf.
S. L. Salisbury, 139th Pa. Inf.
A. V. Cole, 4th Mich. Inf.
P. Hoover, 104th O. Inf.
H. H. Ballou, 13th Vt. Inf.
S. L. Brass, 1st Mich. Cav.
E. H. Nolan, U. S. Navy.
S. J. Shirley, 83d Ill. Inf.
G. Avery, 23d Mich. Inf.
F. M. Thompson, 6th P. R. V. C.
B. W. Hammond.
M. Van Buskirk, 109th N. Y. Inf.
Wm. Twidale, 9th Mich. Cav.
G. T. Brown, 47th Ia. Inf.
J. W. Liveringhouse, 30th Ind. Inf.
J. Newell, 30th Ind. Inf.
D. H. Freeman, 13th Mich. Inf.
J. Burwell, 14th O. Inf.
M. K. Hutchinson, 47th O. Inf.
R. S. Langley, 122d Ill. Inf.
*G. G. Vreeland, 36th Ill. Inf.
A. Borden.
H. Schick, 3d Pa. Art.
John S. Price.
James McKelvey, 16th N. Y. Inf.
G. P. Alford.
Jacob Swift, N. Y. Inf.
Alvin Wells, 1st Mich. Cav.
C. H. Chapman, 18th Mich. Inf.
W. P. Davis, Ill. Inf.
Henry Vinear, 12th Md. Inf.
G. S. Dwight.
D. Morgan, 13th Wis. Inf.
Gottlieb Laher, 68th O. Inf.
O. A. Buzzell, 33d Mass.
†John Young, Mexican War.
John E. Adams, 30th Ind. Inf.
E. J. Hanchett, N. Y. Cav.
James Beach, 2d Mich. Art.
C. F. Orvis, 145th Ill. Inf.
N. L. Brass, 1st Mich. Cav.
Amos Wilson, 36th O. Inf.
Alex. Rogers, 1st and 54th Ill. Cav.
B. E. Swift, 117th N. Y. Cav.
Adam Land, 123d Ill. Cav.
H. E. Drake, 30th Ind. Cav.
Benj. Davis, 38th Ia. Cav.
J. G. Mahler, 20th Ind. Cav.
Jacob Silvers, 15th U. S. Cav.
James M. Miller, 1st Ind. Art.
F. Kieser, 34th Ind. Inf.
Nick Gordon, 2d Ia. Inf.
Wilson S. Richards, 68th O. Inf.
O. E. Foote, 7th Pa. Cav.
Jacob Hammer, 47th Ind. Inf.
W. F. Kellar.
I. Vanderwort, 140th Ill. Inf.
D. R. Ball, 46th Ind. Inf.
Jacob Morgan, 31st O. Inf.
Richard Van Buskirk, 21st N. J. Inf.
Peter Anderson, 2d U. S. Art.
Henry Winkley, 27th Wis. Inf.
Riley D. Burton, 67th Ind. Inf.
Joseph Lilly, 172d Pa. Inf.
Simeon Johnson, 14th Pa. Cav.
Lewis Alvers, 58th Ill. Inf.
Joseph Basey, 1st O. H. Art.
B. F. Baker.
Absalom O. Overman, 95th Ind. Inf.
Wm. Martin, 83d O. Inf.
†John F. Merrill.
Charles Collins, 7th Mo. Inf.
James McFerren, 21st Pa. Cav.
Darius C. Kerr, 14th Ind. Inf.
Wm. Champlin, 1st Mich. Inf.
W. J. Barger, 15th Ia. Inf.
Geo. Mizen, Sr., 42d Wis. Inf.
Samuel Wright, 5th Mass. Inf.
Jesse Millikar, 139th Ind. Inf.
Isaac Smith, 128th Pa. Inf.
C. Hohlfelt, 9th Wis. Inf.
M. D. Oviatt, 17th Vt. Inf.
Elias Knowles, 26th Ill. Inf.
Wm. H. Stephens, 11th Ind. Cav.
Norman G. Gibson, 29th Ind. Inf.
D. V. Stevens, 118th Ind. Inf.
W. B. Hamilton, 53d Ill. Inf.
N. H. Kathorn, 12th Ill. Cav.
Henry Jewett, 47th Ill. Inf.

*All the above named mustered in October 24, 1881.

†Mustered in 1862.

*Mustered in 1883.

John R. VanHouten, 151st Ill. Inf.
 John Konkright, 155th Ind. Inf.
 Calvin Ball, 26th Ind. Inf.
 John D. Ball, 2d Mo. Cav.
 Geo. S. Parks, 26th Ill. Inf.
 Chas. S. James, 27th Mich. Inf.
 W. D. Burroughs, 9th Mich. Inf.
 L. D. Sergeant, 32d Wis. Inf.
 T. M. Battrell, 26th Ill. Inf.
 Jacob H. Gates, 40th Wis. Inf.
 Lafayette L. Anger, 1st N. Y. Inf.
 R. J. Worthington, 13th Mich. Inf.
 Henry W. Crone, 13th Ind. Inf.
 O. E. Woods, 21st N. Y. Cav.

Samuel Nicholas, 18th Ill. Inf.
 D. M. Criswold, 129th Ill. Inf.
 James Powell, 87th Ind. Inf.
 Al. M. Clay, 97th Ind. Inf.
 C. B. Booth, 7th Ind. Inf.
 Logan Sarrison, 17th Ind. Inf.
 Edward Morgan, 1st Ill. Cav.
 David Bruckman, 99th Ind. Inf.
 J. S. Robesy, 1st Md. Cav.
 N. K. Metser, 9th Wis. Inf.
 Peter Griffith, 102d Ill. Inf.
 Samuel P. Howland, 4th Mich. Inf.
 John W. McCracken, 38th Wis. Inf.
 W. S. Webster, 8th Mich. Cav.
 Sanford Webster, 2d Minn. Cav.

One hundred and twenty-three members have been enrolled, and of this total Amos Wilson, C. S. Jones and Moses Van Buskirk are the only members who died since organization. Other soldiers buried in the cemetery were named: G. G. Holzworth, E. Shaw, Findley, Dwight, Lindsey and a veteran of the Mexican War.

On May 21, 1880, Company K, now F, was re-organized and the following officers were elected: A. V. Cole, captain; S. J. Shirley, first lieutenant; E. L. Dutton, second lieutenant. The members presented a list of names for non-commissioned officers, from which Capt. Cole selected the following: Sergeants, William Spade, James Kent, M. K. Hutchinson, Josiah Hodges and George Watkins; corporals, F. C. Brosins, D. Conger, P. Nash, R. Crawford, George Mizen, O. Dutton, W. Babcock and W. Winter.

In 1882 the company was represented in the State encampment at Omaha by the following named members: A. V. Cole, E. L. Dutton, J. M. Kent, M. K. Hutchinson, S. J. Shirley, William Spade, Josiah Hodges, George Watkins, Damon Conger, A. Bordon, Wayland Babcock, Robert Crawford, Marshal Ash, W. G. Beal, H. G. Armitage, G. S. Guild, W. H. Payne, William A. Ballou, E. R. Farrabee, Byron H. Dutton, William Ellington, David Houts, R. W. Crone, Irwin Farrabee, William Knickerbocker, Francis Ballou, J. J. Flemming, E. F. Walker, J. B. Osler, Charles Signor, Henry Homan, Charles F. Doty, William Winter, Ed. A. Buzzell, C. R. Bigelow, Frampt Brosius, Frank Rosencrans, H. W. Mitchell.

The company under the command of A. V. Cole took the governor's challenge cup at the encampment at Crete, in 1883. They held the cup until 1885, when Company C, of Beatrice, took it. The present strength is about 41. The commissioned officers are: L. A. Ballou, captain; W. A. Ballou, first lieutenant; T. H. Ellis, second lieutenant, with four sergeants, three corporals, one musician, and twenty privates.

Hansen Post, G. A. R., was instituted June 23, 1883, with A. F. Powers, commander; J. M. Bearse, S. V. C.; J. F. Nyce, J. V. C.; M. B. Holley, surgeon; F. H. Calder, chaplain; Fred. Albright, Q. M.; J. Countryman, O. of D.; J. G. Honeywell, O. of G.; J. Smith, Adj. T. M. Beatreall, S. M.; and George Mills, sergeant. The post is not now in active work. In fact it is alleged that beyond the formal organization nothing was accomplished.

The Posts at Kenesaw, Ayr, and near Prosser, are referred to in local sketches elsewhere to be found.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Association of Adams County was presided over in 1884 by A. V. Cole, with L. B. Palmer, adjutant. The vice-presidents were: A. F. Benjamin, of Denver; H. M. Spencer, of Little Blue; S. C. Moore, of Ayr; W. P. Davis, of Cottonwood; J. G. Hayzlett, of Kenesaw; R. Spicknall, of Silver Lake; S. L. Brass, of Juniata, and J. A. Snyder, of West Blue. The soldiers' and sailors' reunion of July, 1883, was held at Ayr, and the encampment named "Camp Heron." A. V. Cole was elected camp commander.

The County Veteran Society was organized in May, 1889, with A. V. Cole, president; Joseph Meyers, vice-president, and W. R. Kilburn, secretary. In December, 1889, this association elected the following named officers: President, A. D. Yocum; vice-president, A. H. Brown; secretary and treasurer, W. R. Burton. Dr. J. N. Lyman was appointed a committee to prepare a programme for reunion.

Sixty-five Posts of the G. A. R. were represented at the Camp Sheridan reunion, near Hastings, in September, 1883. A convention of the Nebraska Woman's Suffrage Association was opened in the head-quarters tent at Camp Sheridan on September

13, 1883, when Mrs. M. L. Brass, of Juniata, was elected president. This society decided to continue the publication of The Woman's Tribune, of which Mrs. Clara B. Colby, of Beatrice, was editress.

The G. A. R. fair of January and February,

1886, was held to raise funds for building a hall. Over \$1,000 in cash, together with other property, was obtained.

Mrs. Green, a widow of a soldier of 1812, died at Hastings, in January, 1879, aged eighty-three years. The veteran of that war died in 1868.



CHAPTER XVI.

SOCIETIES, ASSOCIATIONS, ETC., OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE—AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—HASTINGS FAIR GROUND ASSOCIATION—DISTRICT AND CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY, GRANGE, ETC.—AID SOCIETY—FARMERS' ALLIANCE—MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS—ASSOCIATIONS OF TEACHERS—TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES AND MOVEMENTS—SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS—WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION—RAILROAD HISTORY—EDUCATION—SCHOOL SYSTEM, ETC.

Heaven forming each on other to depend,
A master, or a servant, or a friend.—*Pope.*

The first agricultural society of Adams County may be mentioned that organized at Kingston, May 6, 1872, with W. W. Selleck, president; Charles Bird and Walter West, vice-presidents; John H. Bauchman, secretary; G. Edgerton, treasurer; G. I. Selleck, L. G. King, W. F. Selleck, J. L. Johnson and H. B. Munson, directors. There were thirty-nine members with the officers named. The first fair of this society of which there is a record was held October 10 and 11, 1873, at Kingston. No less than eighty-two prizes were offered. This meeting was so great a success that the officers of the society advertised their vote of thanks to the people, while M. W. Bird, the secretary, mailed copies of the report to many points in the east. The list of first and second prize winners is given as follows:

Brood mares, A. W. Waldeck, 1st; B. H. Scott, 2d.
Draft horses, E. T. Wright, 1st; Thomas Flemming, 2d.
Carriage horses, Marion Van Fleet, 1st; G. W. Donahay, 2d.
Saddle horses, C. R. Jones, 1st; A. West, 2d.

Trotting horses, E. J. Wheeler, 1st; George Brown, 2d.
Lady equestrianism, Mrs. William Van Alstyne, 1st; Mrs. W. B. Cushion, 2d.
Best management of horses in harness, by lady, Mrs. W. B. Cushion, 1st; Mrs. William Van Alstyne, 2d.
Mules, J. H. Vandemark, 2d.
Draft mules, J. H. Vandemark, 2d.
Four-year-old bull, S. J. Shirley, 2d.
One-year-old bull, N. R. Pratt, 1st; A. W. Waldeck, 2d.
Cow, John Shafer, 1st.
Two-year-old heifer, Jacob Calhoun, 2d.
Heifer calf, N. R. Pratt, 2d.
Herd cattle, A. W. Waldeck, 2d.
Sweepstakes, bull, N. R. Pratt, 1st.
Sweepstakes, heifer, A. W. Waldeck, 1st.
Work cattle, J. R. Carter, 2d.
Fat ox, J. R. Carter, 2d.
Fat cow, J. H. Vandemark, 2d.
Berkshire boar, A. W. Waldeck, 2d.
Berkshire sow, A. W. Waldeck, 2d.
Berkshire sow and pigs, A. W. Waldeck, 2d.
Poland China boar, 1-year-old, A. D. Williams, 2d.
Poland China sow, 1-year-old, A. D. Williams, 2d.
Hogs, John Murphy, 1st; A. D. Williams, 2d.
Chester White boar pig, C. G. Wilson, 2d.
Chester White boar, 1-year-old, B. H. Scott, 2d.
Chester White sow pig, S. M. West, 2d.
Sweepstakes, hogs, B. H. Scott, 1st.
Sweepstakes, sows, A. D. Williams, 1st.
Poultry, Houdans, A. D. Williams, 1st.
Poultry, Brahmas, W. B. Cushion, 1st.
Red spring wheat, R. M. Jones, 1st.
Yellow corn, T. E. Davis, 1st; B. H. Scott, 2d.
White corn, T. E. Davis, 1st.
Early potatoes, W. B. Cushion, 1st; J. H. Vandemark, 2d.

Winter potatoes, J. H. Vandemark, 1st; C. R. Jones, 2d.

Sweet potatoes, A. D. Williams, 1st.

Beets, Mrs. W. S. Martin, 1st.

Turnips, J. H. Vandemark, 1st; B. H. Scott, 2d.

Carrots, A. D. Williams, 1st.

Squashes, T. E. Davis, 1st; R. S. Langley, 2d.

Egg plant, Mrs. M. S. Norton, 1st.

Peanuts, George and Katie Williams, 1st.

Two-horse wagon, C. R. Jones, 1st.

Open buggy, W. R. Linton, 1st.

Plows, C. R. Jones, 1st.

Silk patchwork, quilt, Mrs. G. Kruder, 1st; J. F. Jennett, 2d.

Calico quilt, Mrs. J. H. Vandemark, 1st; Mrs. O. Stevers, 2d.

Worsted quilt, Mrs. O. Stevers, 1st; Mrs. George Kruder, 2d.

Rag carpet, Mrs. O. Stevers, 1st; Mrs. R. H. Crane, 2d.

Counterpane, Mrs. J. A. Rust, 2d.

Gents' slippers, Miss Sadie Biglow, 2d.

Pin cushion, Miss May Jones, 2d.

Worsted work, Miss Sadie Biglow, 2d.

Bead work, Miss Sadie Biglow, 2d.

Afghan work, Miss Sadie Biglow, 2d.

Lamp mat, Mary Saintclair, 2d.

Crochet, Mrs. Francis Dwight, 2d.

Silk embroidery, Mrs. H. F. Jennett, 2d.

Tidy, Mrs. J. H. Vandemark, 2d.

Best display of millinery, Mrs. Foryg.

Butter, Mrs. Jennie Jones, 1st.

The Adams County Agricultural Society perfected organization at Juniata, March 9, 1874, with E. M. Allen, president; H. C. Humbert and W. W. Selleck, vice-presidents; D. H. Freeman and Dr. A. D. Buckworth, secretaries; W. B. Thorne, treasurer; Samuel J. Shirly, E. N. Noyce, A. D. Williams, D. S. Cole and C. G. Wilson, directors. The unofficial members were Adna H. Bowen, Nathan Platte, A. H. Brown, J. M. Jacobson, James Laird, Charles R. Jones, J. S. Chandler, B. F. Smith, Nathan L. Brass, A. Clute, William B. Kelly, A. V. Cole, J. W. Stark, R. S. Langley, Charles Kilbourn, William Caller, C. C. Babcock, John Stark, W. H. Burr, H. J. Savery, E. Warn, W. H. Gardner, W. B. Cushing, T. Babcock, W. L. Van Alstyne, Pliny Allen, H. H. Ballou, C. Morrison, C. H. Chapman, N. J. Smith, R. D. Babcock, Joseph Carr, A. C. Wright, J. McKelvey, Judson Burwell, George Brown, John Duncan, A. C. Moore, George Kuder, D. H. Babcock, George W. Wolcott, Abram Park, Ira G. Dillery, S. L. Brass, Louis Keeth, Robert Ash, Peter Fowlie, William L. Kemp, M. C. Lindsey, John M. Cole, M. B. Kelley, Henry Shedd and Conrad House. On the completion of this organization the sum of \$50 was subscribed.

In June, 1874, C. G. Wilson was elected president. Five vice-presidents were chosen, one from each precinct, the first elected to have seniority in office. First vice-president, M. K. Lewis, of Hastings; second vice-president, Robert Ash, of Juniata; third, A. C. Moore, of Silver Lake; fourth, G. H. Edgerton, of Little Blue; fifth, V. Darling, of Kenesaw. D. H. Freeman, of Juniata, was elected recording and financial secretary, and W. A. Smith, of Hastings, corresponding secretary. W. B. Thorne, of Silver Lake, was elected treasurer; O. H. Wright, of Kenesaw, was elected general superintendent. It was voted to have a board of directors of sixteen, one from each Congressional township. The following were recommended by a committee appointed to select persons for these offices, and were unanimously elected: W. S. Moote, William Willoughby, J. H. Vandemark, L. B. Palmer, John Waldeck, W. M. West, William B. Cushing, Henry Shedd, J. P. Duncan, M. B. Kelley, William L. Kemp, E. J. Hanchett, E. C. Shellhammer, Jacob Spindler, F. Phillips, W. V. Miller; S. J. Marshall was appointed marshal.

From the minutes of the meeting the following extract is made:

On motion it was voted that the county commissioners purchase the grounds selected by the society for holding this fair.

On motion it was voted that all members of both the old societies shall be considered members of this society, and all persons living in Adams County, by paying the sum of \$1, may become members.

On motion of Elder Crane, three rousing cheers were given, *uno animo*, for the consolidation of the two societies, and the dissipation of all sectional jealousies.

The Hastings Fair Ground Association entered articles of agreement August 6, 1878, signed by R. A. Batty, A. D. Yocum, A. L. Clarke, S. Alexander, O. Oliver, J. D. Crane, A. L. Wigton, A. J. Millett, J. N. Smith, C. H. Paul, B. Martin, W. A. Camp and G. W. Warren. During the year forty acres were purchased and improved for fair ground purposes. The society elected the following named officers in September, 1880: A. D. Yocum, president; J. R. Maxon, A. W. Wheeler, J. B. McCleery, C. G. Wilson, J. A. Robertson, W. S. Martin, C. F. Orvis and A. S. Thompson, vice-presidents; A. B.

Ideson, secretary; J. N. Lyman, treasurer, and S. J. Shirely, superintendent. The directors chosen were A. W. McDavitt, S. L. Brass, John Cook, G. W. Parks, A. N. Hall, W. W. McDonald, A. R. Powers, J. M. Strahl, C. R. Biglow, James Miller, R. M. Ratcliff, Peter Grooms, George Crane, H. Armstrong and W. M. White. In 1884 the society elected D. Lowman, president; D. C. Kerr, vice-president; W. R. McCully, secretary; C. K. Lawson, treasurer; Ira Ford, superintendent, and the following named directors: L. J. Halsteads, W. A. Jones, O. Lamereaux, Silas Stichter, Andrew Beal, S. Saulsbury, Dr. Putt, Dr. Kimball, J. W. Crissman, W. W. Philleo, Charles Boyd, Dr. J. N. Lyman, H. C. Minnix, Sr., C. F. Orvis, James Connelly and H. W. Olmstead.

The District Agricultural Society was organized February 26, 1878, with M. C. Long, president; C. H. Walker, secretary; A. L. Wigton, assistant secretary, and C. C. Ingalls, treasurer. The vice-presidents elected were James M. Flynn, of Clay County; A. N. Hall, of Adams; H. A. Day, of Nuckolls; John H. Powers, of Hall; C. Wells, of Franklin; W. M. Richardson, of Webster; A. H. Harland, of Kearney; G. L. Laws, of Harlan; T. D. Case, of Hamilton; C. G. Bruce, of Thayer; and H. C. Dawson, of Jefferson. The committee on constitution comprised J. W. Small, R. A. Batty, A. D. Williams, A. D. Yocum and Mr. Babcock.

The Central Horticultural Society was organized in September, 1878, with M. K. Lewis, of Adams, president; J. W. Small, secretary; A. D. Williams, assistant secretary, and J. M. Flynn, treasurer. The vice-presidents chosen were H. S. Kaley, of Webster; George F. Warner, of Clay; R. D. Granger, of Kearney; M. S. Budlong, of Franklin, A. N. Hall, of Adams; H. H. Williams, of Nuckolls; M. Creason, of Hall, and O. P. Duncan, of Hamilton.

A County Council of Patrons of Husbandry was organized February 24, 1874, with A. H. Brown, master; M. B. Kelley, O.; J. W. Holt, lecturer; James McCleary, steward; J. H. Vandemark, assistant steward; James McKelvey, chaplain; R. K. Daily, treasurer; A. D. Rust, secretary; J. M. Cole, gate keeper; Miss Rose Kelley, cerea; Miss Edna Lowry, flora; Miss Ada Snodgrass, pomona; Julia

A. Rust, lady assistant steward, and D. H. Freeman, agent.

The Hastings Grange was established in February, 1874, by D. D. Organizer R. S. Langley, assisted by S. L. Brass. J. W. Holt was elected master, with G. W. Lazenby, J. W. Coulter, J. H. Hanson, S. Sadler, M. B. Holly and Secretary Blake filling the other offices.

Blue Valley Grange was organized at Kingston in February, 1874, with E. D. Jones, A. W. Waldeck, W. H. Coultrin, J. B. McCleery, W. S. Moote, C. G. Wilson, C. H. Edgerton, John Gray, Mary J. Heaps, Ada Snodgrass, Emma Wilson and Miss Martin filling the offices in the order of rank.

Silver Lake Grange was organized in February, 1874, with J. P. Duncan, J. C. Wilson, R. K. Daily, J. J. Hoyleman, John Woods, Patrick Duncan, J. B. Roscoe, Mrs. Woods, H. Humphrey, Miss Mary Duncan, Mrs. Roscoe, Mrs. Blackledge and Mrs. Hoyleman officials.

Lone Star Grange was organized at the Hawley school house in March, 1874, with L. P. Hawley, I. Yocum, J. A. Innis, M. Van Fleet, H. Houghtaling, T. Boice, Mrs. L. P. Hawley, D. H. Holmes, S. E. Gardener, Mrs. T. R. Boice, Mrs. Innis and Mrs. C. L. Aldridge officers in the order of rank.

Rose Hill Grange (three miles southeast of Hastings) was organized in March, 1877, with B. F. Brower, master, and N. R. Pratt, secretary. The charter members were the officers named, T. Wisdom, Joseph Bland, S. and N. Schoonover, John Connor, Robert Williams, T. N. White, A. J. Orendorff, James Kemp, James Purdy, Mrs. Orendorff, E. Bower, Rhoda and Hannah Schoonover, Bertha Kemp, Jessie J. Connor, Sophia White, Sue A. Pardee, Sarah Williams and Mrs. Pratt.

The Adams County Aid Society was organized at Juniata October 10, 1874, with W. B. Thorne, president; J. M. Abbott, vice-president; D. H. Freeman, secretary; O. H. Wright, treasurer; S. J. Shirely, C. R. Jones, A. W. Wheeler, Capt. Strout, W. S. Moote, — Sinclair, E. B. Daily, J. P. Duncan, E. C. Shellhamer, G. Spicknall, E. Moore and A. Shattuck, members of executive committee. The object of this association was to extend aid to citizens who were suffering from the effects of the

grasshopper plague. A second society with the same object was organized at Hastings in November. C. C. Ingalls was president; A. L. Wigton, secretary, S. Alexander, treasurer; S. Sadler, R. A. Dague, and A. L. Wigton, executive committee.

A complete history of the different attempts that have been made by the farmers of this country to form themselves into organizations for mutual protection and benefit, would make a large volume. When the Grange movement had subsided, for several years the farmers seem to have lost heart, and nothing was done by them to protect their own interests. But recently the growth of another union of the farmers has been most marked. The Adams County Farmers' Alliance, the new movement, was organized August 31, 1889, with Francis Phillips, of Kenesaw, president; W. I. Huxtable, West Blue, vice-president; H. B. McGaw, Blaine, treasurer and secretary; John Shea, of West Blue, sergeant-at-arms; J. B. Brown, Kenesaw, door keeper; A. C. Tompkins, of West Blue, lecturer, and John Brechner, of Ayr, chaplain.

Some years ago, after the fall of the Grange, the Alliance was established. The first Farmers' Alliance organized in Nebraska was that of West Blue Precinct, York County, in June, 1880. On February 26, 1881, the Adams County Farmers' Alliance was organized. On July 2 no less than sixteen lodges of this society were represented in convention at Hastings, while in April, 1882, there were eighteen lodges represented in convention.

The Adams County Medical Association may be said to date back to 1886, when Drs. Sowers, Lynn, Alfred Naulteus, Lloyd, Steele, Irwin, Urquhart, with the physicians from Ayr and Blue Hill, signed articles of association. Dr. A. H. Sowers was chosen president; Dr. Urquhart, vice-president; Dr. Steele, secretary, and Dr. Lynn, treasurer. This society has accomplished little more than formal organization.

The fourteenth annual session of the State Medical Society assembled at Hastings May 9, 1881. Among the new members were William H. Lynn, John Cook, F. Naulteus and A. F. Naulteus, of Hastings; George M. Prentice, Fairfield, and W. J. Royce, Doniphan. Among the old members present

were M. L. Gahan, of Grand Island, and W. H. Ackley, of Juniata. A. H. Sowers was elected president. As shown in other pages of this work, many of the leading physicians of Adams County are members of this society.

The act approved March 3, 1881 (taking effect June 1), regulated medical practice and provided for registration of physicians. The society urged this and other special bills for regulating practice in Nebraska.

The physicians' record of Adams County dates back to May, 1881, when Dr. W. H. Lynn registered. The names appearing on this record are as follows:

REGISTERED IN 1881.

NAME.	COLLEGE.	DATE.
Wm. H. Lynn,	Rush,	1877.
J. O. Garmon,	Michigan,	1877.
Hogan J. Ring,	Bennett Ec.	1877.
T. H. Urquhart,	Jefferson,	1848.
S. A. Bookwalter,	Louisville,	1873.
W. W. Phar,	Koekuk,	1878.
Winfield Ackley,	Rush,	1875.
Sarah E. Young,	Practice,	1868.
A. H. Sowers,	Columbus, O.,	1862.
C. O. Arnold,	Practice,	1877.
Francis Naulteus,	Holland,	1864.
*John Cook,	Scotland,	1867.
E. H. Gale,	Philadelphia,	1865.
R. M. Shockey,	Practice,	1868.
Emma Watkins,	England,	1856.
J. Williams,	Practice,	1879.
A. R. VanSickle,	Iowa,	1880.
J. Alonzo Greene,	National Med.,	1866.
Mary Breed,	Germany,	1862.
John N. Lyman,	Washington, D. C.,	1862.
Mary A. Howard,	Practice,	1878.
George W. Howard,	Hahnemann,	1857.

REGISTERED IN 1883.

A. S. Fishblatt,	N. Y. E. M. C.,	1879.
C. T. Lawrence,	Cin. E. M. C.,	1857.
George F. Lloyd,	Omaha,	1883.
*L. J. Forney,	Ohio,	1873.
Samuel E. Furry,	Philadelphia,	1880.
Mary M. Michael,	N. Y. F. M. C.,	1875.
*L. K. Markley,	Omaha,	1883.
*H. P. Fitch,	Chicago,	1879.

REGISTERED IN 1884.

L. R. Markley,	Indianapolis,	1882.
Ralph J. Irwin,	Philadelphia,	1885.
Sol. C. Warren,	Chicago,	1883.
James W. Wood,	England,	1865.
*John W. Smith,	Philadelphia,	1865.
Henry J. Smith,	Michigan,	1881.
George H. Chaffee,	W. Res. Col.,	1847.
T. J. Eaton,	Cin. M. C.,	1872.
E. L. Yarietz,	Ill. B. of H.,	1878.
Louis Lodd,	Koekuk,	1884.
J. O. Mote,	Rush,	1883.
F. C. Brosius,		

*Did not report on graduation up to 1886 to compilers of Medical and Surgical Directory of the United States.

REGISTERED IN 1885.

NAME.	COLLEGE.	DATE
Sheldon E. Cook,	Montreal,	1884.
Wm. Tanner,	Practice,	1868.
L. N. Howard,	St. Louis,	1872.
C. W. Selick,	E. Med. A.	1867.
H. S. Rogers,	Keokuk,	1878.
C. M. Williams,	Indianapolis,	1881.
Albert S. Pierce,	Georgetown,	1867.
C. U. Ulrich,	Keokuk,	1870.
A. F. Naulteus,	Baltimore,	1882.

REGISTERED IN 1886.

M. O. B. McKinney,	Cincinnati,	1856.
W. A. Chapman,	Cleveland,	1868.
Jos. T. Steele,	Rush,	1883.
Laura A. Edwards,	Michigan,	1886.
J. S. Curtiss,	Cincinnati,	1878.
J. E. Anderson,	Cincinnati,	1877.
F. J. Schaufelberger,	Jefferson,	1884.
George W. Randall,	Cincinnati,	1878.

REGISTERED IN 1887.

K. R. Blair,	Cincinnati,	1885.
Edward D. Barrett,	Practice,	1868.
John M. France,	Chicago,	1885.
Rufus C. Corey,	St. Louis,	1887.
Geo. B. M. Free,	Maryland,	1884.
L. J. Rogers,	Practice,	1849.
E. T. Cassell,	Practice,	1878.
Alvin H. Keller,	Omaha,	1876.
Louis Turner,	St. Louis,	1874.
A. E. Wessel,	Canada,	1881.
A. M. Rickett,	Practice,	1881.
Luther L. Ames,	Keokuk,	1880.
Charles J. Carrick,	Buffalo,	1885.

REGISTERED IN 1888.

Arthur H. Brownell,	Michigan,	1887.
C. A. Bassett,	St. Louis,	1881.
C. G. A. Hullhorst,	Iowa,	1882.
J. M. F. Cooper,	Iowa,	1884.
Milo S. Kensington,	Joplin, Mo.,	1882.
J. C. Solomon,	Germany,	1879.
A. Lee Sabin,	Practice,	1874.

REGISTERED IN 1889.

A. J. Bacon,	Chicago,	1863.
Jacob B. Hoshaw,	Des Moines,	1887.
E. H. Waters,	Iowa,	1886.
C. J. Yates,	Chicago,	1888.
A. J. Rogers,	Keokuk,	1881.
Wm. McGregor,	New York,	1861.
Ed. R. Holmes,	Chicago,	1887.
H. S. Alely,	Chicago,	1885.
P. James,	New York,	1878.

Mrs. Emma Walker's name appears in the United States Gazetteer of Medicine.

A Normal Institute held at Hastings in July, 1876, is said to have been the first general meeting of teachers held within this county. The Adams County Teachers' Library Association was organized in May, 1879, with L. Darling (superintendent), president. The Teachers' Institute of August, 1884,

opened August 19 in the Congregational building. The name adopted for this organization was "The Adams County Teachers' Library Association."

The Central Nebraska Teachers' Association was organized in November, 1884, with F. W. Parsons, president; J. W. Mercer, vice-president; Hattie Snodgrass, secretary; Nellie Martin, treasurer; R. C. Barr, C. L. Ebaugh and Bertha McCorkle, executive committee.

An Institute held at Juniata August 2, 1888, was attended by forty-two teachers, and the Institute was addressed on various educational subjects by Profs. Wilson, Thompson and Davis.

In the pages devoted to local history reference is made to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and other modern organizations, into which temperance workers find admittance. Here mention is made of the district or county societies and their beginnings in Nebraska. The district lodge of the I. O. G. T. for Adams and Clay Counties was organized in June, 1879, with J. E. Hopper, Mrs. A. A. White, C. Borin, A. E. Neighbor, L. F. Gould, O. M. Soule and S. Brown, officials in the order of rank.

The I. O. G. T. dates back to 1867, when delegates from the thirteen lodges then existing in Cass, Douglas, Nemaha and Otoe Counties organized a Grand Lodge. In 1871 a number of professional lecturers on temperance were introduced into the State. In 1880 there were no less than 158 lodges and 6,263 members; decreased to 113 lodges and 5,054 members in 1881. The sixteenth annual session of the Grand Lodge was held at Hastings in January, 1882.

The Temple of Honor dates back to March, 1877, when a lodge was organized at Lincoln. The same year temples were formed at Hastings, Crete, Sutton, Juniata and other places, and in February, 1878, the Grand Temple was organized with A. H. Bowen, G. W. T. He was succeeded in 1880 by W. A. Hosford, but was chosen grand recorder, and re-elected in 1882. J. E. Morrison was chosen G. W. T. and E. M. Buswell G. W. V. T. in 1882.

The red ribbon movement was begun in October, 1877.

In 1873 the "troublesome question" was

brought before the Legislature. In 1875 a bill regulating the granting of licenses was passed. In 1878 the banded legions asked for prohibition. Among their opponents was R. A. Batty, of Adams County. A. H. Bowen worked against him in the lobby, as the latter was not a member of the House. Mr. Batty pointed out the danger of church and State government, and his speech aided in the defeat of the bill. In 1880 another defeat was experienced. In June, 1881, the license law was passed, and declared constitutional by the supreme court in July, 1881.

The Adams County Sunday-School Association, organized in 1874, may be said to have only perfected organization in May, of 1880, with J. B. Heartwell, president; O. A. Buzzell, C. S.: L. B. Palmer, R. S.; W. H. Burr, treasurer; A. F. Powers, Davis Lowman, W. Klingerman, J. A. Davidson, D. P. Maryatt, L. Parmenter, W. White, and C. F. Orvis, vice-presidents. The report showed 1,200 Sunday-school scholars in the county. The work of this society has been carried on methodically since 1880. The Eleventh Annual Convention of the County Sunday-School Association was commenced at Ayr, May 21, 1885. D. D. Norton was chosen secretary; Prof. H. B. Gilbert, correspondent; L. M. Campbell, recorder; Nettie Winter, treasurer; James Newell, George F. Work and A. N. Hall, executive committee. Some changes have been made in the official list within the last five years, but the workers in the Sunday-school movement have retained their interest in it under every change of administration.

The woman's suffrage question, or the Bloomer movement, was presented to Nebraskans January 8, 1856, when Mrs. Amelia Bloomer delivered an address before the State Legislature. A bill was at once introduced providing for women the right of voting. This bill was carried in the House by 14 to 11, Representative Laird voting with the minority. It failed, however, to be brought up for third reading in the Council. In 1867, the trio, George Francis Train, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, reviewed the question, but it was not well received, as the constitution of 1871 made no provision for enfranchising women. In 1877 the

Woman's Suffrage Association, of Thayer County, was organized, and this society asked for a constitutional amendment, omitting the word *male* and giving the franchise to every person a citizen of the United States. On January 27, 1880, the Nebraska Woman's Suffrage Association was formed. Mrs. J. H. Bowen, of Hastings, was a member of the first executive committee. This association worked so earnestly that eighty-four of the two hundred journals then published in the State espoused its cause; while only eighteen journals opposed it. Adams County Woman's Suffrage Association was organized March 30, 1882, by Mrs. M. A. Brass. Mrs. S. H. Henderson was elected president, Mrs. S. H. Williams, R. S., and Mrs. Liveringhouse, C. S. The vice-presidents chosen were Mrs. A. Waldeck, of Little Blue precinct; Mrs. J. Bovard, of Ayr; Mrs. M. Renfrew, of Denver; Mrs. M. Van Fleet, of West Blue; Mrs. B. Smith, of Juniata; Mrs. L. A. Boley, of Kenesaw; Mrs. B. F. Evans, of Cottonwood, and Mrs. Clinton Soper, of Silver Lake.

The pioneer railroad of Adams County, and indeed, of Nebraska, south of the Platte River, is the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, now connecting Denver with Chicago, and bringing Hastings within seventeen hours distance of that city. This road was constructed in 1871-72, from Omaha to Kearney, and in July, of 1872, the first office in this county was opened at Hastings by Agent Wiggins. This road was built without asking aid from the pioneers of Adams County. In April, 1878, the question of granting financial aid to the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, on their proposition to build a road from Hastings, through Little Blue and Pawnee to Red Cloud, took practical shape, and resolutions favoring the proposition were widely circulated and signed. This project was carried out in 1878, Denver precinct voting the bonds referred to in the transactions of the commissioners and in the political chapter. Work on the Hastings & Republican Valley Railroad was begun June 12, 1878, by the chief contractor, John Fitzgerald. About a month later a small band of Hibernian workmen, dissatisfied with the presence of labor-competing Russians, rebelled and drove the

peaceful ex-slaves of the Czar from the place. The local press was full of praise for the great contractor's methods.

The Hastings & Oberlin road and the Hastings & Aurora road are branches of this system. The great strike of locomotive engineers and firemen on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy system began at 4 A. M. on February 29, 1888, when ten engines were laid up at the Hastings round house. "Pap" Willis, an old conductor, and formerly an engineer, took charge of No. 6, running to Lincoln, and returned with No. 5, being his own fireman. A meeting to consider the rates on grain, charged by the Burlington & Missouri River and other roads from Hastings to Chicago, resulted in a resolution boycotting the Burlington & Missouri River, and favoring the St. Joseph & Western.

At the crossing of the Grand Island & St. Joseph Railroad within the limits of Hastings two wrecks have already been recorded. That of December, 1889, resulted in the death of Fireman Cahill and injury to mail car No. 37, of No. 1 Flyer.

The St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad was constructed in 1872 without financial aid from the county, and was at that time known as the St. Joseph & Denver City. It was the original intention of the projectors of the enterprise to construct the line through to Denver, Colo., and, in pursuance of that intention, the road was graded and the track laid for some miles west of Hastings. Afterward, when the idea of building to Denver was abandoned, the track that had been put down west of the city was taken up, and Hastings remained the western terminus of the road until the fall of 1879, when the construction of the Hastings & Grand Island Railroad formed a connection between the St. Joseph & Denver and the Union Pacific. The two companies were then put under the same management, and the consolidated line became the St. Joseph & Grand Island, which name it now bears.

During the heavy snow storm of January, 1886, a train on the St. Joseph & Western Railroad was snow bound between Hastings and Hansen, near the S. M. Bates farm. The cold was extreme, so that the passengers who remained in the coaches during the blockade suffered severely.

The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad Company was incorporated in December, 1886, the capital stock being placed at \$30,000,000. The road was completed to Hastings in October, 1887, thus giving the Chicago & Northwestern communication with this rich prairie section. In January, 1886, there were construction contracts sold for 297 miles of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, including the twenty-six miles from Hastings to Aurora. It was an interesting sight to see a band of forty or more Russians, of all sizes, rigging up a team to go to work on the grade, with Fitzgerald in their midst talking Chenook, and gesticulating some sense into them. The road was completed to Hastings, October 10, 1887. One branch extends from Fremont to the Black Hills and into Wyoming. Another line stretches out toward the Kansas field, and a line from Hastings to Denver is projected.

On October 15, 1887, the question of subscribing \$20,000 aid to the Pacific Railroad Company, in Nebraska, was carried by a majority vote of the taxpayers of Hastings. The county subscribed \$100,000 and the bonds were issued April 24, 1888. A few days later a temporary injunction to prevent delivery of bonds was granted by the district court, an act at once condemned by the Hastings Board of Trade.

The workmen on the Missouri Pacific Railroad camped at Hastings February 28, 1888, and placed the houses on the depot site on rollers to be moved from right of way. Track laying was commenced April 4, when the depot building was completed. The first arrival and departure of a Missouri Pacific Railroad train at Hastings took place April 21, 1888, when locomotive 168, in charge of Raymond, hauling a regular train with W. P. Davis, conductor, steamed into the city, thence proceeded to Juniata, where the first agent was installed, and thence to the western terminus at Prosser, just at the county line, where J. H. Korner was the first agent.

The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, built in 1871-72, and the St. Joseph & Western Railroad, in 1872, were constructed without financial aid being asked from the pioneers. Not so the branch of the Burlington & Missouri River—the Republican Val-

ley Railroad—built in 1878. Denver township donated \$20,000 in bonds. In 1879 the Northern branch was built from the north to Hastings; so that the fifty-seven miles of railroad in Adams County in 1880 cost the people directly only \$2,000 and that sum was confined to the few residents of one precinct.

In February, 1874, the record of land sale contracts by the Union Pacific Company with buyers began in this county.

In April, 1888, Secretary Lamar issued his celebrated order restoring to the United States the unearned land grants of several railroads companies. The St. Joseph & Denver Railroad lost 12,000 acres, a large portion of which belong to the southern townships of Adams County. Settlers who purchased from the railroad company were alarmed, but the vacating act secured for the buyers from the company a preference right to re-purchase.

The Kansas City, Wyandotte & Northwestern Railroad has been built from Kansas City to Beatrice, and regular trains were running into the latter city in December, 1889. In the fall of 1885 Mayor Yocum and Charlie Dietrich took an active interest in the organization of this road. Both gentlemen were members of the board of directors.

The Rock Island Railroad, which now reaches Nelson in Nuckolls County, the Chicago & Santa Fe, the Kansas City, Lawrence & Nebraska are all looking over the prairie toward Hastings; while the roads already represented here are equally watchful in planning extensions or in carrying their plans forward.

The first school in Adams County was opened one mile south of Juniata early in 1872, by Miss Emma Leonard, and that fall Miss Lizzie Scott was employed to teach a school at Juniata. In the records of the county commissioners, summarized for this work, the official dealings with the pioneer schools are related. By April 1, 1872, there were thirteen districts organized, and by October 1, 1873, no less than thirty-eight districts reported organization. The enumeration of children of school age gave a total of 467, of whom 251 were males and 216 females. The expenditures for school purposes in 1875 amounted to \$10,550.46, or an expense per child of

\$6.60. In the thirty-eight districts were twenty-five school-houses, one of which was a log-house. In 1880 sixty-six districts and fifty-five school buildings were reported; 3,275 children of school age—1,083 males and 1,032 females. Thirty-two male and 41 female teachers were employed during the first year of the past decade (1880), who received \$12,505.61 as salary. The school buildings were valued at \$31,492.20, and the school grounds at \$911. The first statistics of apportionment of school moneys, published in October, 1873, on the bases of the census of April of that year, form a little history of the beginnings of the common schools of Adams County.

The amount received from the State was \$626.83, and that from the county \$238.59, making a total of \$865.42. It will be seen that all organized districts received \$7.46, being each district's share of the one-fourth of the whole amount. Some will be noticed marked *, which denotes that they had three months school prior to the taking of the census in April, 1873, and hence were not entitled to the *pro rata* apportionment. District No. 18, which includes Hastings, was organized more than three months before the taking of the school census in April, 1883, and had no school until after that time, hence was not entitled to the *pro rata* apportionment.

District No. 1, 37 children, \$114.02; district No. 2, 29 children, \$90.98; district No. 3*, \$7.46; district No. 4, 33 children, \$102.50; district No. 5*, \$7.46; district No. 8*, \$7.46; district No. 9*, \$7.46; district No. 10, 10 children, \$36.26; district No. 12, 8 children, \$30.50; district No. 13, 6 children, \$24.74; district No. 14*, \$7.46; district No. 16, 7 children, \$27.62; district No. 17*, \$7.46; district No. 18*, \$7.46; district No. 19, 21 children, \$67.94; district No. 21*, \$7.46; district No. 22, 22 children, \$76.82; district No. 13*, \$7.46; district No. 24*, \$7.46; district No. 25, 19 children, \$62.18; district No. 26*, \$7.46; district No. 28*, \$7.46; district No. 29*, \$7.46; district No. 31*, \$7.46; district No. 32, 7 children, \$27.62; district No. 33, 11 children, \$39.24; district No. 34, 8 children, \$30.50; district No. 35, 7 children, \$27.62; district No. 37*, \$7.46.

Superintendent A. E. Allyn, of Adams County,

reporting on the schools for the year ending December 31, 1888, credits the county with 5 brick, 77 frame and 2 sod school houses, and places the value of school property at \$173,014. The number of acres of common school lands in the county on November 30, 1888, was 16,560. During the year then ended 1,515 acres were sold, and 4,160 acres leased at \$3,462.95 per annum. The apportionment of school funds to Adams County in 1888 was \$8,279.44. On July 11, 1887, there were 2,713 males and 2,709 female pupils, or children between the age of five and twenty-one; 35 males and 102 female teachers were employed; 4 graded schools were in existence, and 75 of the 80 districts had

school for six months or more each year. At Hastings J. B. Monlux was principal, and at Juniata J. H. Albright (succeeded by Mr. Webster). Miss Bertha Green was principal of the partially graded school at Ayr, and H. H. Monlux at Kenesaw. The enrollment of school children at the close of 1888 was 281 over that of the former year, but the increase in attendance was only 9. During the year 1889 a marked increase in enumeration was reported, and an improvement in the system of teaching and qualification of teachers.

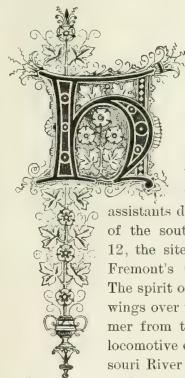
The first flag raised over a school house in Adams County was hoisted over the school building in the Wallace district, January 6, 1890, by W. E. Nute.



CHAPTER XVII.

HASTINGS CITY—LOCATION AND ADDITIONS—TOWN COMPANY—JUDICIAL HISTORY—KINNAN CLAIM—FIRST SETTLEMENT—BEGINNINGS OF RELIGIOUS AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISES—BUILDING THE CITY—FIRES—STORMS—IMPROVEMENTS—TRANSACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL—FINANCIAL—OFFICIALS, ETC.—BOARD OF TRADE—BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION—POST OFFICE—BANKS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS—WHOLESALE HOUSES—COMMERCIAL INSTITUTIONS—MANUFACTORIES—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES—SECRET AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES—Y. M. C. A.—HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS—INSANE ASYLUM—SUNDRY SOCIETIES.

She shakes the rubbish from her mounting brow,
And seems to have renew'd her charter's date.—*Dryden.*



HASTINGS, also known as the "Queen City of the Plains," dates back to 1872. A little while prior to that day, in October of that year, when Charles W. Colt and his assistants drew their lines over a part of the southeast quarter of Section 12, the site was part and parcel of Fremont's Great American Desert. The spirit of progress had spread its wings over the country, and a glimmer from the head-light of the first locomotive on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad shot across the prairie and seemed to rest here. In July the railroad to this point was an accomplished fact, and the dream of town-builders took possession of those who entered the lands in 1871. Within six months this dream was partly realized, and, while the shadows of the panic of 1873 ebbed and flowed over the land, the new town of the prairies leaped forward like a young fawn freed from maternal restraints.

The town was surveyed by Charles W. Colt, of Lowell, Neb., in October, 1872, on the west one-

half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 10, under orders from Walter M. Micklen and Thomas E. Farrell. The plat shows the crossing of the Burlington & Missouri River and St. Joseph & Denver Railroads between Hastings and Lincoln Avenues, south of First Street. This street is paralleled with numbered streets, Second to Sixth. The north line is shown by North Street and the south line by South Street. Burlington Avenue, running north and south along the west line of the plat, is paralleled on the east by Lincoln, Hastings, Denver and St. Joseph Avenues. On October 15, 1872, Micklen appointed Thomas E. Farrell, "my true and lawful attorney," to convey any part of the west one-half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 10. He also conveyed to him, for \$500, a half of the west one-half of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 10.

Moore's addition was surveyed by N. P. Cook in November, 1872, for John Gillespie Moore. This tract extended north from South Street to Sixth Street, and west from Burlington Avenue to the alley west of Bellevue Avenue. On October 28, 1872, E. Worthing, receiver of the land office at Lowell, entered the east one-half of the southwest

quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 10, to John G. Moore, for \$2.50 per acre.

Johnson's addition was surveyed in March, 1873, by Surveyor C. W. Colt, east of St. Joseph Avenue, within the north and south lines of original town site. The numerical order of east and west streets in original town was retained, while the streets running north and south were named Kansas Avenue, Colorado Avenue, Minnesota Avenue and Wabash Avenue, later occupied by the Hastings & Grand Island Railroad. The railroad addition was surveyed by A. B. Smith, in July, 1873.

The articles of incorporation of the Hastings Town Company were filed at Juniata, April 17, 1873; but acknowledged before John L. Jones, of Buchanan County, Mo., April 8, that year, by James D. Carl, W. L. Smith, W. B. Slosson, Thomas E. Farrell and Walter M. Micklen. On April 23, the above named (except Carl), with Thomas Johnson, Louise Slosson and Julia Micklen, gave power of attorney to the president and secretary of the company to convey or mortgage all lots in Johnson's addition to the original town. The company was organized April 9, 1874, with James D. Carl, Thomas E. Farrell, William L. Smith, R. Beitel, Henry Beitel, George H. Pratt, C. K. Lawson, W. B. Slosson, and S. Slosson, members.

St. Joseph addition was surveyed by A. R. Buttolph, in July, 1873 (east of railroad addition and south of Johnson's and original town), for D. M. Steele, of Buchanan County, Mo. A. M. Ghost's addition was surveyed by A. B. Smith, October 6, 1873, on the northwest corner of Section 13, Township 7, Range 10, for A. M. Ghost. It was named originally Junction Land Company's addition. Johnson's addition to the Town of Hastings Company was organized in April, 1874, with Thomas E. Farrell, Thomas Johnson, George H. Pratt, C. K. Lawson, William L. Smith, Henry Beitel, Rudolph Beitel, and Slosson Brothers, stockholders. In May, 1880, the forty-acre tract of J. V. Lewis, west of the city, was surveyed into five-acre building lots.

In the celebrated case, *R. A. Batty, administrator of the estate of John O. Barada, deceased, Delilah Barada and Margaret Barada vs. the Com-*

missioners of Adams County and Thomas E. Farrell, William L. Smith, Walter M. Micklen, Rudolph Beitel, Henry Beitel, George H. Pratt, Charles K. Lawson, William Slosson and Samuel Slosson, the history of the town site of Hastings is judicially related by Judge Gaslin. On March 17, 1881, he delivered judgment in this case in favor of the defendant county. He pointed out clearly that the conveyance of the Town Company, on October 8, 1878, to the county, of Block 15, and the contract to convey, made in 1875, were binding, and further, that the sale to Barada was made without a consideration for Block 15, and ordered the persons named as plaintiffs and the individuals named as defendants, heirs and legal representatives of Barada, and grantee of Carl, to make quit claim deed to Adams County for Block 15, within sixty days.

In December, 1886, a quit claim deed from Lorenzo H. and Caroline O. Dow to Charles Dietrich was filed in the county office. This instrument showed a consideration of \$2,000, and was made in the interest of the owners of the original town plat, and to settle a suit of long standing in the United States court. The site as hitherto stated became the property of a stock company, who delegated to certain persons the power to sell lots. Members of the company complained of the manner in which the power was used, and the old Town Company disbanded, and a new one was formed, whose agents sold the balance of the property, Mr. Batty buying some of the property, the same to which Dow held title under the original company. In the summer of 1886 the latter began ejectment proceedings, and the former asked the United States court to quiet the title of Dow. The property involved was then valued at \$200,000.

The "Kinnan claim" suggested itself in December, 1889. It affected Johnson's addition and the original town. If there was any real justice in the claim it would be a very serious matter indeed, but the vigorous steps being taken to show the character of the title alleged to be held by Hurlbut by quit claim from Mrs. Kinnan, will doubtless succeed in breaking it down completely. There are altogether about 700 lots in the body, 399 in Johnson's addition and 300 in the original town site land.

The owners organized to defend their rights and appointed John P. Keedle, M. Van Fleet, Jay Cherry and A. Van Sickle members of a committee for this purpose. Propositions from Ragan, Capps, McCreary & Stephens, A. H. Bowen, C. H. Tanner, and from Batty, Casto & Dungan, all agreeing to clear title, were received, and on December 30, 1889, the proposition of the last named firm to clear title to lots for \$750 was recommended and subsequently adopted.

In April, 1871, a small colony located here—Walter Micklen, Thomas Johnson, John G. Moore and Thomas Watts being the members. During the summer and fall others arrived, so that at the close of 1871 there were twenty-nine voters and a number of foreign adults, or ten more voters than there were persons in the county in June, 1870. Micklen erected his little sod house on Lincoln Avenue, just north of the N. L. & T. Company's block.

Hastings Stock, son of W. H. Stock, was the first child born in Hastings, and to him the company deeded a town lot.

In 1871 Walter Micklen homesteaded the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 10, west, and proving his claim in 1872, was granted a patent. The Hastings Town Site Company was organized with Walter Micklen, W. L. Smith, Thomas E. Farrell, secretary; Walter B. Slosson, Samuel Slosson and James D. Carl, members. Micklen's land was surveyed into lots and the name Hastings given to the surveyed tract. The original owner built a sod house in 1871. Early in 1872 Samuel Alexander moved from Lincoln to this point and established the first business house here. In October of that year he was commissioned first postmaster. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was constructed to Juniata and trains were running in July, 1872. In September following the St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad (later St. Joe & Western) was completed to Hastings. The Methodist Society was founded here in 1872; the Congregational Society was organized in 1871.

As has been stated, Mr. Alexander is the pioneer of the commercial circle. He hauled the goods from old Inland, then the nearest railroad depot.

In October he was appointed postmaster, the consideration being \$1 per month. In December Capt. Weeeler became his partner and their building on Second Street and Hastings Avenue was erected, where Morledge & McWade established their house in later years. In January the partnership was dissolved, but Mr. Alexander still had the post office in the new building.

C. B. Nelson came to Hastings October 1, 1872, as land agent of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company. Prior to this J. Ross opened his blacksmith shop in a sod house, but later erected a good shop on Denver Avenue, and was joined by L. W. Miller.

S. S. Dow arrived from Wisconsin May 28, 1872. In June he established a land office here and within a year located 270 homesteads. He cast the first ballot ever cast in Denver precinct. In May, 1871, J. G. Moore homesteaded what is Moore's addition. In March, 1873, he became a partner of George W. Donahey and built a law and land office at the corner of First and Burlington Streets. C. C. Ingalls built a small house, the third in the village, about September 1, 1872, and soon after joined Benedict in the coal and agricultural implement business. D. S. Cole, who resided east of the town site, set out his nursery in the spring of 1873. B. H. Brown & Son (lumber dealers) built the third house in September, 1872, and in October Pratt & Lawson began the building in which they opened the "Headquarters" store in November. Capt. F. S. Wells (U. S. N.) built the Inter Ocean Hotel near the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad depot early in the winter of 1872-73. E. Steinau came October 10, 1872, and within ten days opened store in a building just west of his second store completed in May. Silas Crooker built a shop on Front Street in October, 1872, and in November opened his shoe store. A. Andrus erected his drug store on Second Street and Hastings Avenue in March, 1873. Within six months from the foundation of the town between forty and fifty houses were erected, and at the close of the first year of its existence there were fifty-one distinct business and professional men here.

In January, 1873, W. H. Stock opened a meat market; in March or April J. H. Ballard established

his lumber yard, following A. W. Cox & Brother, who came prior to this time and established a large lumber business. Abbott, Batty & Dow opened their law office June 2, Miss Blodgett her millinery rooms, and W. L. Smith his book store. J. P. Crowley's, G. W. Mowery's, John Douglass' and Dr. Buckworth's residences were completed, and the Denver House opened. Miles Humphrey built the first carpenter shop, and R. Chandler moved his wagon shop from Juniata. A. W. Cox built a dry-house in their lumber yard; E. Steinau's new store was completed; Dr. Buckworth's new building on First Street and Hastings Avenue was sold to Charles Cameron, of Lincoln, who soon after established their dry goods house here in May, 1873. In the summer of 1873 H. A. Forcht's stove store, P. F. Burruss' and Peter Hessel's harness shops, J. Millett's bakery, Hill & Luniac's restaurant, Gordon's tailor shop, T. B. Pratt's barber shop, Twidale's meat market and Secor's boot and shoe shop were in existence. In June, 1873, McIntire & Reed, who purchased Wheeler's store, took possession; Wiggins, the agent of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, opened the new depot; C. H. Paul his boot and shoe store; J. M. Smith opened a grocery in the Town Company's old office; M. K. Lewis erected his residence, and Gould his implement warehouse. Jules Lemoine established his jewelry store in July; Mackay & Co. owned the nurseries; Shockey & Hutchinson opened their hardware store, and Dr. C. M. Wright was in the Andrus store. In July, 1873, the block north of Third Street and east of Hastings Avenue was donated by the county for the purposes of a public square, and a liberty pole raised thereon. The first Fourth of July celebration was held at Hastings in 1873, S. W. Martin, of Madison, Wis., being the orator of the day. There were 1,500 people reported present. In addition to the buildings named, the Burlington & Missouri round-house, the Oliver block, Samuel Chaney's residence, A. B. Ideson's residence, George Haguewood's, Dr. Yeazel's and the Cline brothers' residences, together with various smaller buildings, were commenced in October. In September, 1874, Buswell's dwelling, Razez's two dwellings, Cameron's two-story business

block, Prof. Ballinger's residence, an addition to the Burlington House, an addition to McIntire & Morledge's store house, Eidel's dwelling, and the Taylor and Ash dwellings were commenced. The Journal was established in May, 1873. Hastings Lodge of Masons and the Presbyterian Society were organized in 1873. The town was incorporated April 2, 1874, and the Baptist Society organized, and Lodge No. 50, I. O. O. F., founded. In 1876 I. W. Cramer established a broom corn market here, and the ranks of the business circle were generally recruited. Hastings was chosen the seat of justice in 1877. The Exchange Bank and A. L. Clarke & Co.'s Bank were established; the Central Nebraskan was issued in 1878; the German Evangelical Society was organized in 1878; the Evangelical Association in 1879; the Catholic congregation was founded the same year; Strickland Post, G. A. R., was chartered in 1878, and reorganized in 1880, in which year the Protestant Episcopal Society was organized. Hastings Chapter and Nebo Commandery were chartered in 1881; the same year the Y. M. C. A. was organized; the City Bank and the First National Bank were founded, and Heartwell & Co.'s real estate and loan office established.

During the year 1874 there were thirty-three business houses and twenty-five dwellings erected, together with additions to former buildings. From January 1 to July 1, 1878, there were 130 houses erected in the town. Such a record of substantial growth needs no word of comment. Local real estate owners and agents sold 75,000 acres during this year. Additions were made to the city, and a large number of building lots disposed of. In the beginning of 1879 there was not a brick building at Hastings. Ideson built the brick block on Hastings Avenue, north of Morledge & McWade's store. He was followed by the Adams County Banking Company, who erected their large building that year. Then came the fire, and after it the building era of the city was introduced—the brick store buildings occupied in August, 1880, by Henry & Frhm, Hursch, Shean, Barnes, Walbach and Edwards, the saloon buildings of Kelley & Hahn and Plamuaidon & Co., and the Commercial Hotel—all coming in immediately after the fire. In the spring of 1880

Ideson's two stores on Second Street were commenced, and in the fall the Buckeye House, the Alexander Philipps block (\$10,000), the South Side school-house, the Farrell block (\$15,000), and the Mowery block, on the site of the old Denver House, were started, together with the Davis building and the Methodist Episcopal and Protestant Episcopal churches. During the building season of 1884 there were 3,251,000 brick used in buildings, and 287 new residences were erected. In the fall of 1885 H. A. Fyler arrived *en route* to Kansas City, where he intended to establish a large dry goods house. Stopping off at Hastings, he was impressed with the appearance and prospects of the town, and signified his intention of remaining should he be able to buy or rent a store building. Unsuccessful, he was about to carry out his original intention, when Messrs. Kerr, Heartwell, McElHinney and others proposed to erect a building rather than lose such a concern and such a citizen. The Central Building Association was organized in October, with Dr. Naulteus, president; D. M. McElHinney, vice-president; William Kerr, treasurer; E. C. Webster, secretary, and they with O. Oliver, directors. The two lots adjoining the Kerr Opera House were purchased at once, and a building, after plans by Rittenhouse, erected.

The fire of October 7, 1878, destroyed Maston & Mitchell's livery, six of their horses and eleven transient horses. The fire of September, 1879, originated in the basement of Allison's drug store, when an oil lamp or lantern exploded. The destruction of thirty-three buildings followed, creating damage estimated at from \$90,000 to \$100,000. The losses are set forth as follows: J. S. Allison's stock, \$5,000; J. W. Davis, building stock, \$6,000; H. Lepin's hotel and fixtures, \$8,000; C. Cameron's stock and his fine buildings, \$13,000; Thomas Scales' building, \$800; A. W. Cox's stock and two buildings, \$2,300; J. Weingart & Bros'. elevator and 800 bushels of wheat, \$2,200; Kelley & Hahn's building and contents, \$2,300; Dr. Naulteus' dwelling, office and stock, \$3,000; Walbach Bros'. building and stock, \$15,000; N. F. Damron's hotel and furniture, \$6,000; D. H. Ballard's building and stock, \$4,000; G. F. Work's office, \$125; Exchange Bank, furni-

ture, \$200; James Walling's hotel furniture, \$1,000; O. Oliver's lumber, \$100; Wigton Bros.' office and type, \$600; C. Borin's press, \$75; Millett & Mulford's stone works, \$1,000; A. L. Clarke & Co's. brick building, \$400; C. H. Manker's carpenter shop, \$200; Prindle & Burke's shop, \$50; Mrs. Mow's two buildings, \$450; Mrs. Higgins' building, \$300; Langevin & Plamondon's two buildings, \$1,500; J. B. Seavage's building, \$800; W. A. Smith's stock, \$900; George Volland's two livery stables, \$1,200; J. Kohl's building and fixtures, \$1,500; E. Stout's building and stock, \$800; A. J. Nolan's stock, \$300; damage to Forcht & Co's. building, \$100; Lowman & Fisher's office furniture, \$150; Charles Carmichael's personal effects, \$300, and a few smaller losers.

Immediately after the fire of September, 1879, subsided, the work of rebuilding commenced, and nine brick buildings were under construction, with several frame houses, among them the Lepin House.

The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad depot was destroyed by fire November 25, 1879, under circumstances described in the chapter devoted to the courts.

The burning of Lee's barn, February 24, 1880, threatened the destruction of that section of the city which was not destroyed in September, 1879. The firemen averted the danger and saved the town, an action which won for them fame. The fire of July 16, 1881, originated in Davis' drug store, destroying that building, with Altschul's, Binderup's, Jorgensen's, Dietrich's (occupied by Nowlan) buildings and much valuable property. The insurance carried amounted to \$19,750. This disastrous fire destroyed the block between Second and Third Streets and Hastings and Denver Avenues. Cole's circus was here; the thermometer registered 103 degrees in the shade, and the town was full of visitors. The circus men aided the fire department, but the natural and artificial heat made the atmosphere so oppressive that numbers of the workers fell insensible, leaving the flames to devour everything save the Forgy building on Second Street and Denver Avenue.

The fire of October 19, 1885, destroyed Bristol's agricultural implement warehouse and Yetter's paint shop. The fire apparatus proved almost useless in

face of the strong wind. The fire of February 2, 1886, originated in Winsor's restaurant, and resulted in the destruction of Fisher's building adjoining, and the grocery stock of Knight & Green. Hattie Higgins' building was damaged, also Mrs. D. B. Farry's house and the M. Stern building. Alfred Curtis proclaimed an offer of \$100 to the department, should it be saved, and the firemen won the reward. Dilley's slaughter-house was burned May 31, 1886. The burning of the brewery and small buildings is of recent date. In January, 1889, the New York Five Cent Store was burned out and the New England Hotel damaged. The fire which destroyed E. Cole's barn in February almost led to the burning of the La Belle Hotel and the team laundry.

The rain and wind storm of May 22-23, 1873, blew down Moore & Donahey's office, carried out the front of Veith's furniture store; Gordon's new building was leveled; Capt. Wells' stable was blown away; Pratt & Lawson's house, on their claim, was torn to pieces, while southwest of the town a school-house was blown down. At Juniata only one house was blown over.

The storm of July 4, 1880, carried away part of the roof of the Lepin House, entailing a loss of \$1,500; Bacon's new house, north of the depot, was carried bodily off the foundation, also Schermerhorn's house; Ideson's unfinished house, on the north side of the square, was moved twelve inches; Mount's new house was moved over twenty-four inches, but the sleeping owners did not know of it until morning; barns and other buildings in the northwestern quarter of Hastings were carried away or damaged; Steinau's warehouse was torn to pieces; the front of Crane & Hayzlett's store was blown out, and fifty per cent of the wind-mills were taken away or broken by the wind.

In the summer of 1887 a wind storm demolished the large building then being erected by the Hastings Building Association, for Moriarty, Trimble & Co.

The old fire department re-organized November 26, 1878, with J. D. Crans, C. E.; H. M. Hicks, A. M.; J. S. Allison, secretary; A. Yeazel, treasurer; H. H. Cherry, foreman; Peter Wood and L. McBride, assistant foremen. The hook and ladder

company was presided over by N. R. McBride, with Louis Kline and A. Pool, assistants. The hose company claimed E. D. Kennard as foreman, while the department trustees were J. N. Lyman, E. Hayzlett, C. Cameron, F. J. Benedict and George E. Brown. The special election of January, 1879, resulted in 308 votes being recorded on the question of issuing bonds for \$6,000 to meet the expenditures of the reorganized fire department. The proposition was carried by a majority of seventy-three votes. The roster of firemen, in good standing, December 19, 1883, shows the names of J. C. Williams (chief of department), O. Oliver, J. N. Lyman, D. M. McElhinney, James McWade, F. J. Benedict, C. Hammott, C. K. Lawson (treasurer), Ed. Quinn, J. M. Strickland, J. J. Wemple, J. C. Craig, Ed. Havens, Frank Coy, H. H. Cherry and S. M. Wright—all of engine company No. 1; C. Fisher, Ed. Kennard, H. Ellison, George W. Houck (assistant engineer of department), W. G. Snyder, John Dugan, O. H. McNeil, William Cutler, J. L. Finley and N. P. Eckles—all of hose company; G. J. Evans, H. C. Haverly, M. Stern, Charles C. Cline, J. B. Dallas, F. Browning, Fred Stine, Charles Wahlquist and Alex. Meyer—all of hook and ladder company. The officers for 1890 are J. C. Williams, chief; H. C. Haverly, assistant chief; C. C. Cline, secretary, and Mike Reed, treasurer.

The ordinance empowering the city to borrow \$85,000 for the construction of a system of water-works was adopted in March, 1886. The people confirmed this ordinance by vote, and in November the entire bond issue was purchased by Edward M. Needles, of the Penn Mutual Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, who came here to see the city.

The works were completed in 1886. The system consists of eight bored wells, each supplied with a separate steam pump which pumps the water into a large receiving reservoir. Two large steam pumps take the water from the reservoir and force it into the stand pipe. The stand pipe rests upon a solid stone foundation, and is 125 feet in height and 20 feet in diameter. There are 18½ miles of mains. The total cost of the works and mains is \$100,000. For the eleven months ending November 30, there had been pumped 63,451,613 gallons of water. The



Edw. Verbits

ADAMS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

water rent for 1889 was about \$8,650. During the year 140 permits were issued, making total number of water permits 725. The best of maintenance, including coal, wages, etc., is less than \$6,000. As an investment, Hastings water works stock, were it owned by private individuals, would be above par. There is not another city in Nebraska with a better system of water works, better management, or furnishing better water than the Hastings system. The water is as pure as that from a mountain spring or brook, and the supply is inexhaustible.

The transactions of the council of the town are interesting: The commissioners declared Hastings an incorporated town April 2, 1874, and M. K. Lewis, A. D. Buckworth, J. G. B. Smith, A. W. Cox and A. H. Forcht were chosen trustees. The board of trustees of the town of Hastings organized May 4, 1874, with M. K. Lewis, president; W. F. J. Comby, clerk; W. A. Smith, treasurer; Thomas E. Farrell, collector; G. W. Mowery, marshal; G. D. Pierce, attorney; L. C. Gould, police justice; C. H. Paul, assessor; C. K. Lawson and R. V. Shockey, flue inspectors. On May 18 the first business meeting was held. M. K. Lewis, A. D. Buckworth, H. A. Forcht and A. W. Cox were present. A petition from residents on the north side of Second Street, asking for the construction of a sidewalk, was presented, and an ordinance for a walk six feet in width was adopted. The ordinance for closing saloons between the hours of 10 P. M. and 5 A. M. and all day on Sundays was adopted. A. Berg was appointed street commissioner *vice* Dungan, resigned. Trustee J. G. B. Smith was present on May 30. Petitions for sidewalks on Hastings Avenue and First Street and for street crossings were presented. The ordinances of Lincoln City were adopted for use here. On June 8 a \$1 dog tax was authorized, and a town tax of ten mills ordered. This tax was reduced to five mills on July 15.

The meeting of July 28, 1874, is noticeable for the organization of Hastings as a city of the second class. On August 8 the election of officers took place, and the vote canvassed on the 10th. A protest from W. L. Smith, of the First ward, on the grounds of illegality was received. The poll book of the Third ward was objected to by A. D. Buck-

worth, owing to some informality, and the returns ignored; while the returns of the Second ward were reported irregular. On August 11 the last named returns proved correct, were canvassed, and the following named officers elected: H. A. Forcht, mayor; G. D. Pierce, clerk; J. G. B. Smith, treasurer; L. C. Gould, police justice; Alfred Berg, marshal; J. G. B. Smith and John E. Wood, councilmen. For some reason, unexplained on the record book, the whole batch of officials resigned. Buckworth's motion to hold a new election on the 27th was lost, and on the 17th Trustee Cox moved that the clerk notify the officers-elect to qualify. On September 7 the offices were declared vacant, and on September 22, the election under the order raising Hastings to a city of the second class was held. John E. Wood was chosen mayor; G. D. Pierce, clerk; A. L. Wigton, police judge; A. Berg, marshal; Samuel Alexander, treasurer; Thomas E. Farrell, engineer; A. W. Cox and J. L. Parrott, councilmen for First ward; J. G. B. Smith and H. A. Forcht, for Second, and J. E. Smith and Thomas E. Farrell for Third ward. The new council attempted to modernize the primitive water system of the village, and had galvanized tubing inserted in the old well. Thomas E. Farrell was appointed a committee to secure from the Town Company, for the city, a deed to the lot on which the city well was located, while J. Smith and A. W. Cox were appointed "to see that the city is in good shape to receive a wind-mill." O. Oliver was declared representative of the First ward on October 26 in the case of Parrott *vs.* Oliver, by reason of the former's absence and failure to qualify. T. J. Pardoe was elected in the Second ward in January, 1875.

On January 18, 1875, the modest councilmen moved to circulate a petition to be presented to the Legislature for the annexation to Adams County of all that portion of Hall County south of the Platte River. A. W. Cox was appointed, W. L. Smith was also appointed, to procure a copy of the petition for the removal of the county seat. A city prison was authorized to be built at this time, and a petition by A. D. Buckworth and eight others asking that a committee of the council proceed to Lincoln to urge before the Legislature the illegality of the organiza-

tion of Adams County, and \$300 was at once appropriated to meet the expenses of such committee. Mr. Buckworth was empowered to select this committee. In March \$500 was appropriated to be expended in canvassing the county *in re* re-location of seat of justice, and on April 12 a number of bills were paid on this account.

The elections of April, 1875, resulted in the choice of Charles H. Paul, for mayor; G. D. Pierce, clerk; S. Alexander, treasurer; John E. Wood, police judge; C. E. Forgy, marshal; A. Berg, engineer; George T. Work, J. L. Parrott, Robert Morledge, Fred Forcht, J. M. Smith and Thomas E. Farrell, councilmen. Mr. Paul would not qualify, and M. K. Lewis was elected mayor. The ordinance adopting a grade for First and Second Streets and Hastings and Denver Avenues was adopted in May, and in August the councilmen adopted their scale of pay at 150 cents for each meeting. The city immigration committee was working earnestly at this time in connection with the council, and meetings were held at short intervals.

In September, 1875, a committee was appointed to superintend the burning of grass within the city limits, and G. T. Work was instructed to plat the cemetery grounds, and an election of councilman *vice* Parrott was ordered. On January 3, 1876, the question of issuing city bonds for \$2,750 to fund indebtedness, was ordered to be submitted to a vote and carried, in April, by 91 for, 4 contra. A. D. Yocum was chosen mayor; John E. Wood, clerk; S. Alexander, treasurer; J. H. Darnell, police judge; William Hubbell, marshal; S. D. Stoddard, engineer; J. Countryman, Fred Forcht and J. Stabler, councilmen. This council introduced a new era in valuation of real estate, and examined every lot and tract within the city jurisdiction, and levied five mills for general and five mills for improvement fund. On August 14, 1876, appears the account of M. V. Mondy (\$162.50) and A. H. Connor, for legal services in securing an injunction against the erection of a court house. In November the proposition of W. W. Holmes to pay eighty-three cents for city bonds was accepted. In April, 1877, J. S. McIntyre was chosen mayor; G. D. Pierce, clerk; Isaac Le Doijt, J. Stabler, T. D. Scofield, F. J. Benedict,

F. Forcht and J. Countrymen were councilmen. Paine & Co. had partially completed their contract on old water works. In April, 1878, R. A. Batty was chosen mayor by 228 votes against 17 cast for J. S. McIntyre. Messrs. Pierce, Alexander and Work (judge) were re-elected to their positions; W. W. Brown, marshal; T. E. Farrell, engineer; J. G. B. Smith, J. Wemple, W. W. Dungan, Samuel Sadler, and A. D. Yocum, councilmen. This council adopted a resolution to submit to the voters of the city in November, 1878, the proposition to issue bonds for \$6,000, to be expended in procuring fire apparatus and other protection against fire.

The vacancy caused by the death of J. G. B. Smith was filled by the election of William Breed, in January. The vote on the bond proposition was 49 in the First, 54 in the Second and 86 in the Third ward for, and 30, 41 and 45, in the respective wards, contra, or a majority of 73. In April, 1879,* Fred Forcht was elected mayor; J. H. Fleming, city clerk; J. A. Vanatta, police judge; E. Steinau, treasurer; W. W. Brown, marshal, and T. E. Farrell, engineer. The councilmen elected were D. M. McElhinney, William Breed, C. H. Paul and A. H. Sowers. The records of the council for the balance of this year were destroyed in the fire. The second record book⁷ was opened in 1881. On April 12, 1881, D. M. McElhinney qualified as mayor; I. W. Cramer, C. L. Stone and W. A. Camp, as councilmen; James B. Heartwell, as treasurer, and J. H. Fleming, as clerk. The councilmen holding over were C. K. Lawson, William Breed and O. Oliver. The overseer of streets was W. W. Brown, and police judge, J. A. Vanatta. In June a tax levy of ten mills per dollar of valuation was ordered to meet estimated expenditures of \$3,462.09. An eight mill school tax to meet \$2,769.67, and a four mill sinking fund tax to meet \$1,384.84, were also levied. On July 16, 1881, the council tendered thanks to

*The taxes collected and warrants paid in 1875 amounted to \$954.32; in 1876, to \$1,010.30, and in 1877, to \$1,375.38. During these years the levies and warrants issued amounted, respectively, to \$1,081.04, \$1,600.02, and \$2,928.31; and in 1878 to \$3,357.92, or a total of \$8,968.99; but there was paid out from proceeds of sale of bonds \$2,590, thus leaving the balance, \$3,227.39, to represent the city's debt in February, 1879, plus the \$2,300 outstanding in certificates of indebtedness or bonds, showing a total debt of \$5,427.39.

the managers and employes of the circus company, in consideration of their services during the fire of that day, and further ordered the forty dollar license paid in to be refunded. A vote of thanks to the firemen was also carried. J. M. Abbott was appointed city attorney, and in January, 1882, John F. Ballinger was appointed police judge, *vice* Vanatta, resigned.

In April, 1882, W. H. Lanning received 319 votes and Patrick Nowlan 150 votes, for mayor; E. J. Evans was elected clerk; J. S. Allison, treasurer; J. F. Ballinger, judge; Thomas E. Farrell, engineer; D. C. Brown, L. H. Tower and F. J. Benedict, councilmen. W. R. McCully, E. Hayzlett and A. H. Cramer were elected members of the first board of education. In March, 1883, J. C. Williams was appointed marshal, *vice* S. L. Martin. The annual election held in April, resulted in the return of Mayor Lanning, Clerk Evans, Treasurer Allison, J. F. Ballinger, Thomas E. Farrell; while I. W. Cramer, C. L. Stone and J. E. Gant were chosen councilmen, and the council organized with C. L. Stone, president. The board of education chosen comprised J. Wooster, H. Shedd and A. H. Sowers. In August twenty street lamps were introduced; exclusive permission given to the Telephone Exchange "to erect and maintain a system of telephonic communication," and matters relating to the fire department considered.

The elections of April, 1884, resulted in the choice of J. E. Gant, mayor; G. J. Evans, treasurer; E. A. Boelich, clerk; T. E. Farrell, engineer; J. Wooster, E. C. Webster, C. K. Lawson, councilmen from First, Second and Third wards, and William Breed, to fill vacancy in Third ward. W. H. Stock was elected marshal and Joe Landcraft sexton of the city cemetery. In June a tax levy for general purposes of ten mills on the assessed value, \$570,423, was ordered, also two mills for sinking fund, three mills for special water tax, ten mills for use of city schools, and one mill for interest on school bonds. On July 28 certain exclusive rights were granted to the Hastings Electric Light company to erect its plant, and a contract made with the company to supply ten lights to the city at a cost of \$10 each per month.

In April, 1885, Henry Shedd was elected mayor, Thomas E. Farrell, engineer; E. A. Boelich, clerk; G. J. Evans, treasurer; J. F. Ballinger, police judge; William Vastine, Charles Cameron and O. Oliver, councilmen. The ordinance giving privileges to C. R. Miller and others, to lay gas-pipes, etc., was approved June 22, 1885. The usual limitations are found in this document. The petition of the Alexanders *in re*. the construction of street railroads was considered, and the question of new water-works claimed a good deal of attention. In December Hastings was declared a city of the second class. The city elections of 1886 were held April 6. There were 469 votes cast for Samuel J. Alexander; 197 for T. E. Farrell and 466 for A. D. Ycum; a total of 1,132 votes. E. Fist was elected treasurer; J. D. Nunes, clerk; N. B. Vineyard, police judge; Ezra Langevin and W. H. Stock, councilmen, First ward; C. C. Rittenhouse, Second ward, O. Oliver and T. E. Farrell, Third ward; Ed. L. Lewis and R. Covert, Fourth ward; D. M. Leland and Prof. Andrews, members of school board. The resolution of March 8, to submit the question of issuing bonds for the construction of water works, was carried out April 15, when the proposition was carried by a vote of 465 to 164. Advertisement was at once made, and on May 18 the proposition of A. L. Strang & Co., of Omaha, to complete the works for \$75,775, was accepted; while the bid of Lindley & Leighton, of Lincoln, for the \$85,000 bonds was accepted. J. A. Hall was appointed chief of police; on May 12, 1886, the ordinance declaring Hastings a city of the second class was carried. On June 28, C. H. Paul was appointed water commissioner and J. N. Smith, city engineer. In October, 1886, the Palmer donation of 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres to the city for park purposes was considered.

On February 14, 1887, the proposition of the Hastings Improvement Company was carried by a vote of 65 to 207, and so declared by the mayor. The ordinance to extend the city limits was approved March 14. On April 11, the vote of the city was canvassed. For police judge W. R. Burton received 1,073 votes; for councilmen, W. H. Stock, Charles Cameron, Thomas E. Farrell and J. E. Gant received the majority vote in their respective wards; while A.

H. Cramer and E. Hayzett were chosen members of the school board; C. H. Paul resigned the office of water commissioner and T. C. Martin was appointed to fill vacancy. The records of summer meetings of this year are devoted mainly to ordinances relating to grants in aid of railroad construction, vacation of streets and alleys, and right of way to City Railroad Company. In August, a deed to Lots 240, 249, 239 and 250 (in the old cemetery) to the G. A. R. Post, hitherto appointed to settle with Strang & Co., for extras on water works, reported an allowance for extras of \$9,632.57. On December 13, the proposition to issue funding bonds for \$10,000 was carried. The April elections of 1888 show 785 votes for A. D. Yocum, and 724 for S. J. Alexander, candidates for mayor; 787 votes for H. C. Haverly and 725 for W. W. Miles, candidates for the office of city clerk; 971 for J. D. Mines and 524 for Emanuel Fist, for treasurer. The councilmen chosen were Ezra Langevin, C. L. Stone, C. C. Rittenhouse and J. J. Lyons. There were 604 votes for and 25 against the issue of water works bonds. E. P. Nellis received 1,411 votes, J. W. Wooster, 748 and Mr. Firmin, 684 for members of board of education, and the two first named were declared elected. George Crane was appointed marshal, with Lafayette Mitchell, Charles H. Wanzer and Nicholas Shelling, service police; William McGrath, weigh-master; Joseph Williams, chief of fire department; H. H. Stine, J. R. Jarvis, W. H. Thomas and C. B. Cox, service foremen. T. M. Clark was appointed temporary engineer of water works and on June 11, was employed as engineer at \$125 per month, from which sum the fireman was to be paid. The tax levy for all city purposes, including general, sinking and interest funds, was thirty-two mills. On June 21, there were 335 votes cast for the issue of water bonds and 21 against such issue. On September 3, the resolution in the matter of Street Commissioner William Breed was ignored by the mayor; but the commissioner's resignation smoothed the disagreement between the executive and council. The election of April, 1879, proved a spirited contest between political parties for the office of police judge. N. B. Vineyard received 466 votes; George Lynn, 386, and R. Corey, 169. For members of the

school board a strictly party vote was cast—C. K. Lawson (693) and J. M. Ferguson (690) defeating Mrs. P. Nowlan (307) and Mrs. N. Perham (304). For the council, J. A. Rose received 215 votes, and H. Lepin, 140 for First ward; W. M. Vastine, 110, and D. W. Palmer, 29 in Second ward; T. J. Creeth, 166; J. Baily, 7, and R. Brown, 2 in Third ward; G. A. Kent, 162, and R. Brown, 70 in the Fourth ward, Councilmen Langevin, Rittenhouse, Stone and Lyons holding over. George Crane was appointed chief of police; August Rice, water commissioner; J. C. Williams, chief of fire department; William McGrath, weigh-master; Ed. Burton, street commissioner; J. W. Houseman, city tapper; C. H. Wanzer, Nicholas Schilling, J. M. Tennant and A. Britchfield, members of police force; John Hoagland, D. L. Haker, Ed. Hamilton and A. M. Smith, service foremen.

In May, 1889, a proposition to construct sewers throughout the city was received from Andrew Rosewater, of Omaha, and what is known as the "sewer bond ordinance" was passed June 10, and July 16 fixed for holding an election on the question of issuing \$75,000 bonds and levying a direct tax to meet interest and principal. There were 959 votes cast—465 for and 494 against the proposition. On June 12 a tax levy of thirty-one mills was authorized to meet city estimates of 1889. This was made up as follows: 8 mills, general fund; 6½ interest; 6 sinking; 4½ fire department; 2½ police; ½ park and 3 water fund, on a total assessment of \$1,667,900, yielding from the 8 mills tax alone \$13,343.20. Warrants have been drawn to about the legal limits, which is a little over \$11,000. About \$2,500 of this amount was used in the sewerage survey, purchasing lot for new city hall and engine house, sewer pipe, grading, etc. The balance has been paid for salaries and incidentals.

The sewer bond ordinance was submitted on date given above. Notwithstanding the importance of the matter but little interest was taken in the election, and as stated only 959 votes were given, 465 for and 494 against, where at least 1,600 votes should have been cast.

Mayor Yocum appointed C. H. Wanzer chief of police, *vice* George Crane, resigned, in January, 1890. Mr. Wanzer is one of the oldest policemen

on the force. N. Schilling took his place as day policeman, and Joseph Yocum was appointed by the mayor as one of the night policemen. On the appointment of Capt. Yocum to a Federal office C. C. Rittenhouse was chosen to fill the vacancy in the office of mayor.

The board of trade was organized March 8, 1887, with 153 members. The call for the meeting was signed by Mayor Alexander. A. D. Yocum was chosen temporary president, and J. D. Crosthwait, secretary. Messrs. Cessna, A. L. Clarke, C. H. Deitrich, Emanuel Fist and Samuel Alexander were appointed a committee to draft a constitution, and on motion of F. D. Taggart this committee was empowered to nominate permanent officers. On March 10 C. H. Deitrich was chosen president; A. L. Clarke, vice-president; A. D. Yocum, secretary; D. M. McElHinney, treasurer, and J. A. Casto, attorney. Messrs. Clarke, Deitrich, Bostwick, Alexander, Elsemore, Hahn, Wemple, Palmer and Fist were previously named as members of the executive committee. A railroad committee, standing committee, committee on commerce and manufacturing and committee on advertising were also appointed. In September a committee was appointed to meet the directors of the Chicago & Sante Fe Railroad Company at Topeka, Kan. In March, 1888, M. L. Elsemore, G. J. Evans and J. B. Heartwell were elected members of the executive committee. M. L. Elsemore was elected vice-president and W. E. Barnes, treasurer—the president and secretary being re-elected. In May, 1889, J. F. Ballinger was elected secretary; M. L. Elsemore, president; F. J. Benedict, vice-president, and J. D. Riley, treasurer. J. N. Lyman was chosen member of executive committee, *vice* Heartwell, and Messrs. Hahn, Barnes, Benedict, A. H. Cramer and W. A. Dilworth new members of that committee.

The charter members of this organization comprised the officers whose names are given above, with Ezra Langevin, George J. Volland, H. C. Whitlock, J. C. Rosenfield, M. Stern and others—among whom may be included all the members of the Union Club, named in other pages. In later years Snow & O'Shaughnessy, E. E. Merritt and a number of new citizens became members of this board.

The Business Men's Association was organized December 9, 1879, with A. D. Yocum, president; D. H. Ballard, vice-president; A. B. Ideson, secretary; C. K. Lawson, treasurer; G. F. Work, J. M. Abbott, A. L. Wigton, A. B. Ideson, S. Alexander and W. A. Camp, executive committee. The object was to promote all enterprises which promised benefits to the city.

The Nebraska Business Men's Association was organized May 29, 1889, with H. A. Fyler, president; E. L. Scott, vice-president; F. C. Ashall, secretary; P. H. Kipp, treasurer, and those officers with R. A. Barr, A. S. Yetter, M. J. Lombard, W. E. Barnes, J. C. Ideson, F. J. Benedict and M. L. Elsemore, members of committees. Each of the associations have played an important part in the progress of Hastings, and in the development of the county's resources.

Samuel Alexander was appointed postmaster of Hastings, September 19, 1872, and held the office until March 31, 1882. He was a native of Butler County, Pa., where he was born in 1842. He served throughout the Civil War; in 1869 moved to Lincoln, Neb., and on April 22, 1872, located a quarter section, on soldier's warrant, near Hastings, where, in July, 1872, he established his business house. The money orders issued together with fees amounted to \$38,968.72, and money orders paid, to \$30,445.95. In 1878 there were 1,000 letters registered, and 800 registered letters delivered; 4,360 registered letters in transit, and stamps, envelopes and cards sold to the value of \$5,072.44. In May, 1880, a direct mail route between Hastings and Grand Island was established *via* St. Joseph & Denver Railroad. On June 1 the railroad mail service on the Burlington & Missouri River was inaugurated. In October, 1883, Hastings was one of the four second class offices in the State, the salary of which was placed at \$2,100, being next to Fremont in this class, and consequently holding fourth place in point of postal business in the State. G. J. Evans was appointed master in 1885. The bill which placed Hastings, Beatrice and Fremont within the circle of the free delivery system passed the House December 14, 1886. On September 1, 1887, four letter carriers began their rounds here

under the direction of Postmaster Evans. In January railroad mail service on the F. E. & M. V. line began. In November, 1889, J. B. Heartwell was commissioned postmaster.

The First National Bank dates its beginning back to 1877, when A. L. Clarke & Co. opened their private banking house. On July 1, 1881, business was started under United States charter as a National Bank, with a capital of \$100,000.

The Exchange National Bank may be said to have been established October 14, 1877, when Raymond Brothers & Yeazel opened the old Exchange Bank. On January 8, 1884, the company re-organized under the National banking law, with I. M. Raymond, president; W. H. Lanning, vice-president; A. Yeazel, cashier, and J. R. McLaughlin, assistant cashier. The paid-up capital at date of re-organization was \$100,000.

L. H. Tower & Co. (L. H. Tower, A. A. Sweet and R. E. Dent, Jr.) established their real estate and loan office in 1879, and were the first to advance loans on real estate in Adams County at the rate of 8 per cent.

The Nebraska Loan & Trust Company credits its beginnings to J. B. Heartwell and E. C. Webster, who established a money-lending house here January 1, 1881. A reorganization was effected May 1, 1882, when the present name was adopted, and the capital placed at \$100,000. A year later the stock was increased to \$250,000; but on August 1, 1885, an increase to \$500,000 paid-up stock was reported and confirmed. In 1884 the company's building on the northwest corner of Second Street and Lincoln Avenue was erected.

The City National Bank was chartered in October, 1883. This house was established in August, 1881, under the title, City Bank, with L. H. Tower, E. S. Fowler, John M. Ferguson, E. C. Allen and Chester Hard, stockholders; but in September, 1885, a controlling interest was purchased by H. Bostwick and W. G. Clark, who have served as president and cashier respectively, with C. J. Dilworth, vice-president, and J. M. Ferguson, assistant cashier. The officers named, with John M. Lyman, John Slaker and G. J. Evans, formed the first board of directors after reorganization in 1885. The bank of

Yuma, Col., and the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Doniphan, Neb., are conducted by this company.

The Adams County Savings Bank was organized in January, 1886, with William Kerr, president; J. M. Sewell, vice-president, and H. Shedd, cashier. J. M. Ragan, D. McCool, R. A. Batty, A. R. Van Sickle, M. L. Alexander, Jacob Fisher, Abram Loeb, Sam Hirsch and L. Hahn were directors. The bank was opened April 6.

The Western Loan & Investment Company was organized in June, 1886, with H. Bostwick, president; A. H. Cramer, vice-president; J. R. Penfield, treasurer; C. J. Dilworth, attorney, and they with G. J. Evans, J. M. Ferguson, W. G. Clark, W. A. Dilworth, R. V. Stockey and W. C. Penfield, directors.

Adams County Bank was established April 2, 1886, under the Nebraska banking laws. The old bank building was moved in November, 1879, to the lot east of Hawley's old grocery store. The Benevolent Union of Hastings perfected organization in May, 1885, with D. M. McElHinnay, president; C. H. Deitrich, vice-president; A. L. Wigton, secretary; Samuel Alexander, treasurer; J. A. Casto, attorney; Dr. L. Lodd, medical examiner; Thomas E. Farrell, A. H. Cramer, Morris Alexander, Jacob Fisher, D. M. McElHinnay and C. H. Deitrich, trustees.

From what has already been stated much has been learned relating to the old-time business men of the city. A glance at the statistics of early years will prove of profit. During the season ending November 11, 1875, 214,200 bushels of grain were shipped from Hastings. During the same year the following implements were sold: 78 harvesters, 100 combined machines, 65 mowers, 84 drills and seeders, 540 plows, 143 harrows, 10 corn planters, 26 threshing machines, 71 cultivators, 75 sulky rakes, 40 revolving rakes and 148 wagons.

The lumber trade of Hastings in 1878 was represented by the Badger, Central and Chicago Lumber Companies. No less than 1,025 cars of lumber were imported, showing a business of over \$300,000 in this branch alone. This body of lumber was in time distributed throughout the fifteen counties tributary to the town.

On July 6, 1885, the movement to close business houses at Hastings at 8:00 P. M. was adopted, and the telling system of ringing a bell at each door and calling out the welcome hour was introduced. Toward the close of the year this primitive system was dropped and a new era in business forms introduced.

The wholesale houses of Hastings have their origin in the hardware house established by Burger Brothers, Alexander & Co., early in 1887. The Burgers established their retail hardware store about six years before. In October, 1887, they moved into the Enterprise Building, soon enjoying a trade of about \$500,000 per annum. In 1888 the firm was incorporated, the capital stock being placed at \$200,000.

Moriarty, Trimble & Co.'s wholesale grocery house was established in the summer of 1887. In June of that year the stock arrived; but two weeks before the day set for occupation of the building, a wind storm demolished it. This building was projected by the Hastings Building Association specially for this firm, and its destruction was a great disappointment. The stock was placed in Germania Hall, pending the completion of a new building. The Hastings Association went at once to work rebuilding, and late in November the building was ready for the firm. The business of this house is estimated at nearly \$100,000 annually.

The wholesale grocery of Ezra Langevin & Co. (E. Langevin, W. B. Cushing and E. L. Gauvreau) was established in December, 1889. Their stock fills three floors of their newly erected brick block at the corner of Denver Avenue and Front Street.

A. J. Neimeyer & Co., wholesale dealers in yellow pine lumber, own their own mills at Texarkana, Ark., and Hastings is their principal place of business. Their trade extends all over the West, and during 1887 reached the sum of \$300,000.

The Gazette-Journal Company has done an extensive business in wholesaling paper, office stationery and printers' supplies. The company's trade extends as far west as Washington, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico, while a large business is done in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. This trade amounted to nearly \$70,000 in 1887, and is constantly on the increase.

Hastings has two wholesale commission houses which did a large business during 1887. Mr. J. Rosenfield has had a patronage of \$50,000, while Jacobson & Co., who were engaged in business only during half of the year, enjoyed a trade which amounted to \$30,000. Still another commission house was opened near the close of 1887 by Appar & Brown, but as their business operations covered only a period of a few weeks no figures were reported.

G. Bratt & Co., wholesale furniture dealers, established a retail store some years ago; but not until the close of 1887 did they embark in their wholesale trade. The Shedd & Jones building, erected in 1887, is occupied by this firm. The annual business is estimated at from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

The wholesale liquor and cigar house of Carney & Crowley is the pioneer house of this character in this section of the State. Their trade area is extensive. M. Stern's wholesale liquor house is also credited with a large trade.

The following tabulated statement, prepared in 1888 by the editor of the Gazette-Journal, shows the figures of Hastings' wholesale trade as they appear in the aggregate. They are worthy of especial note because they present the first tabulated statement of the wholesale trade of this city ever made.

Hardware.....	\$ 400,000
Groceries.....	250,000
Lumber.....	300,000
Furniture.....	60,000
Liquor and cigars.....	225,000
Commission.....	80,000
Paper and stationery.....	70,000
Total.....	\$1,385,000

The retail business of Hastings is well represented. The professional and business directory of 1889 shows 620 offices, stores, workshops and factories; while all the names given in that work do not exceed 3,325.

Sixty traveling men make their homes in this city. Many of them are men of families and own or rent nice, comfortable homes. They are a part of Hastings and as such are valuable citizens.

In December, 1885, the Hastings Street Railway Company, M. L. and C. L. Alexander, incorpo-

rators, presented their plans to the people, and asked that such plans be submitted to the people, with a petition for a franchise.

The Hastings Improvement Company was incorporated in December, 1886, with J. B. Heartwell, James Laird, J. J. Wemple, E. C. Webster, C. P. Webster, H. Bostwick, Charles P. Heartwell, Angus McDonald and L. M. Campbell, corporators. The object of this association was to construct and operate a street railroad. In 1887-88 the present extensive system of railroads (about fifteen miles in length) was completed, and regular runs over the whole system made. It is said that the Citizens' Street Car Company will build a line to the asylum in 1890, and that the Hastings Improvement Company will run a line to the convent.

The Hastings Building Company was organized in June, 1884, with Thomas E. Farrell, George W. Mowery, Andreas Veith, A. H. Cramer, J. N. Lyman (vice-president), C. H. Deitrich (elected president), Charles Doyen, John T. Ballinger, M. Stern, M. K. Lewis, J. C. Kay, J. T. Burroughs, G. J. Evans, J. J. Anderson, N. R. Pratt, Jay Cherry, A. J. Anderson and H. Bostwick, incorporators. The company purchased eight lots on the north side of Second Street northeast of Denver Avenue, removed the old buildings thereon, and commenced the work of erecting a two-story building to cover the entire property. Emanuel Fiss was elected secretary. This association has added many buildings, all large ones, to the city within the last six years.

In October, 1884, Manager Pilcher, of the electric light company, reported thirty new lights for private use and three additional city lights. The company introduced machinery at this time, the city mill engines having previously supplied the power.

The Hastings gas works were constructed in 1885, the main building being 32x82 feet, and the reservoir 48 feet in diameter. By August 26, the six inch pipes were laid on Second Street.

The Hastings Prospecting Company was organized in 1889, with J. N. Lyman, president, and A. L. Edwards, secretary. On July 17, the bids (for drilling 4,000 feet into the earth) of Johnson, of Salina, Kan., and Taylor & Wood, of Hastings,

were rejected. On the 19th the proposition of Taylor & Wood was brought up a second time and accepted, the consideration being \$15,000 for 4,000 feet, to be paid at the rate of \$4,000 for first thousand feet; \$3,500 for second, and \$3,500 for third and \$4,000 for fourth thousand feet of drilling. Prior to July, 1889, the contract was sold to a Michigan man, who was compelled to relinquish it. A New York man was the next successful bidder, but he also failed to carry out his proposition. In July, 1889, the board of directors was elected to look after the interests of the citizens and see that the work was properly done. Machinery was purchased by the contractors and work began immediately with the result as shown in former pages of this work. The first well was abandoned, but work will be commenced on a new hole, twelve instead of eight inches. With new machinery and twice the motive power, it is intended to bore down until 4,000 feet of strata are revealed. The record of the boring of the old well is kept by George Haller. The new well was commenced the first week in January, 1890.

The Lewis foundry and machine shop was founded in 1878, and completed in December, by M. K. Lewis & Sons (F. S. and E. L. Lewis). Machinery for drilling wells, broom corn threshers and foundry machine work is manufactured here; also horse-power machinery for pumping water from deep wells, casting for wind-mills, cresting, sash weights and brick-kiln supplies. The Lewis header works form a branch of this industry. The Moritz iron and brass foundry was established in 1887, for the manufacture of iron columns, store fronts, machine castings and ornamental brass work. The brick yards of Johnson & McElhinney were established early in 1878, and during the ensuing season 500,000 brick were manufactured. In 1879 there were 700,000 brick manufactured, and in 1880, 1,100,000, of which about 200,000 were shipped to Grand Island. Millett & Mulford's brick yards were established early in 1880, but before the season was far advanced Mulford's retirement was recorded. The attempt to introduce a special brick machine was unsuccessful, and caused such delays as to postpone work until 1881, when about 200,000 brick

were produced. Stewart & Collins' brick yards were established in April, 1887, southeast of the city, and burned 700,000 brick that season. In 1888 they introduced the "New Quaker Brick Machine," and almost trebled the product of 1887. Crans & Campbell introduced the manufacture of patent pavement in 1887.

The Hastings Steam Flouring Mill Company was organized in May, 1880, with A. W. Lewis, of Ohio, a subscriber of \$15,000; Leopold Hahn, of \$5,000; Charles Kohl, of \$5,000; Jacob Fisher, \$1,500, and Fred C. Benedict \$1,500. The board of trade donated \$2,500, and citizens not members of the board, \$2,000.

The Hastings Creamery Association organized in January, 1884, with S. C. Dilley, president; N. B. Vineyard, vice-president; S. E. Furry, secretary and manager, and D. B. Furry, treasurer. The work of erecting buildings, south of McElHinney's brick yard, was at once entered upon, and the first annual meeting held January 7, 1884. The Novelty Carriage Works were established by C. O. Jamieson in 1886. This factory made rapid strides. The cigar factories are operated by Snyder & Brewer, McTaggart & McKeehan, C. A. Dunn and Berry & Sons. The Hastings Manufacturing Company was organized in May, 1886, for the purpose of manufacturing a combination heater under the Campbell & Pryor patents. M. K. Lewis is president and L. B. Palmer, secretary, while William Kerr is also interested in this industry. During the year 1887 the product of the company's work was valued at over \$20,000. The Champion & Morledge packing house was opened December 21, 1886.

The Hastings roller mills of Humphrey & Edgerton were erected in the summer of 1889, and the machinery supplied by E. P. Ellis, of Milwaukee. In 1880 the sash, door and blind factory of B. Button was established. The old mill site on Block 5 of Moore's addition was sold to E. O. Alexander in 1887, and the machinery and buildings taken to the corner of Hastings Avenue and C Street. The Hastings planing-mill was opened in January, 1887. D. H. Miller and D. S. Cole established the Globe Poultry Yards, near Hastings, in March, 1880, and later introduced steam incubators. The Wilkinson

candy factory is no small industry. During the year 1887 the establishment produced \$35,000 worth of sweet meats. The Hastings sorghum factory, which collapsed in the big fire, was re-established by L. F. Gould in September, 1880. The Bauersock brewery, with which are connected two bottling houses, is operated by Theodore Bauersock. The plant is valued at about \$25,000. William Breed's bottling house is also a large concern, as is Forcht & Brandt's. The Bonanza wind mill, invented by L. W. Maxan, of this county, was manufactured at Hastings, in 1880, by Maxan Bros. The water is elevated by windlass and bucket as in common-bored wells, the power being derived from an 8-foot wind-wheel. The Kellar Medicine Company organized in the fall of 1889, with Messrs. Nellis, president; J. C. Parsons, vice-president; O. H. Gordon, secretary; A. H. Farrens, treasurer and manager, and Dr. Kellar, chemist. The company propose to establish an extensive laboratory here and manufacture several medical specialties. The Hastings broom factory is one of the latest additions to the manufacturing industries of Hastings. It was established in 1887, by Elroy Pettys. The Singer Manufacturing Company is represented—the popular Fred Rowe, traveling superintendent, being acting agent.

In 1872 the Inter Ocean Hotel was erected by Capt. Wells near the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad depot. In January, 1873, the Denver House was completed and opened, followed by the Burlington House. During the year 1874, the Town Company built an addition to the Denver House, and A. H. Burbans to the Burlington. The old Lepin Hotel, destroyed in the fire of September, 1879, was the leading house of all Central Nebraska. The present house was built immediately after the fire; but the storm of July 4, 1880, carried away part of the roof, and injured the furniture. Even part of the furniture for this house was burned in November, 1879, while stored at the depot. This is undoubtedly one of the most comfortable houses in the State.

The New Commercial, rebuilt by N. F. Damron, on First street and Lincoln Avenue, was opened in January, 1880, by James Wailing. In December,

1889, Dad Ronian succeeded Mr. Whitney as proprietor of this house. In April, 1880, the old Badger Yard building was fitted up for hotel purposes by H. M. Ridley. The Arlington, Denver, Gibout, Illinois, Mechanics' Home, Metropolitan, New England, Queen City, St. Louis and Tremont are all fair houses. It is now proposed to erect a 200-room house, and the proposition will probably soon take effect.

The Bostwick, in the Hastings Building Company's block, was erected in 1884 under plans by Architect Weigle. The building is 80x176 feet, three stories in height. The three eastern rooms of the building on ground floor are used for hotel purposes, the dining rooms being 30x55 feet. The second and third floors of the building are devoted entirely to hotel purposes. The great central room, off which are several bed rooms, is 26x70 feet. Twenty-two feet above the floor of this parlor is the heavy glass room, and twelve feet from the floor a gallery sweeps around, giving access to the bed rooms on the third floor. There are seventy bed rooms in addition to ladies' parlor, sample rooms, dining room and office. W. H. Dildine opened the house in October, 1885. The present lessees are Parker & Dillon. W. H. Dillon, formerly of the Commercial, took charge of the Bostwick, February 1, 1889. The first 'bus was introduced in December, 1879, by the Alexander Bros., to be run between the depots and the new Lepin House, completed and opened that month.

During the summer of 1878 the Central Nebraskan suggested the building of an opera house. About this time the Liberal Hall Association was founded, and a building was erected for worship as well as for amusement. Work on the Kerr Opera House building was begun May 7, and completed in 1884 at a cost of \$61,000, by a company of local capitalists organized for that express purpose. Such leading citizens as M. L. Alexander, William Kerr, George H. Pratt, L. B. Palmer, James R. Heartwell, F. Naulteus, and many others were identified with the object. It stands at the southeast corner of Lincoln Avenue and Second Street, is 66x125 feet in size, and rises three stories above a high basement. It is a very substantial structure of

pressed brick and stone, with solid granite foundation, after designs by Mr. C. C. Rittenhouse. F. D. Taggart purchased the stock of the opera house company, and became its owner. Cole's Park was opened June 27, 1889.

Religious denominations by no means lack representation in Hastings. The first services of the Congregational Church here were conducted in the covered wagons in which the hardy pioneers traveled to this region. The First Congregational Church was organized in the fall of 1871, by the direction of Rev. J. F. Clarkson, who came as chaplain of the English colony. In the Home Missionary report of 1873 the Rev. John F. Clarkson is at Hastings. It is spoken of as "a wide field; rapid increase in population; more laborers needed; church organized." The number of church members is 13; conversions, 4, which added to 9 who united by letter make the 13 reported. The first services of the newly organized church were held in a sod house located in Moore's addition to the city of Hastings. Owing to some difficulty between the minister and his people, he was dismissed from the pastorate of the church, and after a time his place supplied by the Rev. W. Haviland, who remained only about one year. The church maintained only a feeble organization until the month of September, 1874, when Rev. M. F. Platt took charge. Services were held in the school house until 1875. In that year the old Millet Hall, which stood on the corner of First Street and Hastings Avenue, was secured as a place of meeting. In October, 1875, the T. C. C. F. S. was organized for the purpose of raising funds for furnishing the hall. The church society continued to hold its services in Millet's Hall until the fall of 1878, when another move was made—this time to the Presbyterian Church, which had been erected and dedicated in the meantime. As the society had become well organized, a systematic effort was now made to raise funds for the erection of a church building. A house was erected at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Third Street, which was dedicated March 29, 1879. Rev. Mr. Stewart, who succeeded A. W. Curtis, was present. The first church bell at Hastings was placed in the belfry the day prior to the dedication. Rev. Henry

Wilson succeeded Mr. Stewart in 1882. Rev. G. R. Milton came in the fall of 1884, and served until January 1, 1886, when Rev. William Walters took charge. A legacy of \$500 left by Davis Lowman with additional subscriptions were used in paying off a debt of \$1,000. In 1887, shortly after, the Hastings Improvement Company gave \$6,700 and the two lots on which the building now stands for the old site. The church house was removed, and re-dedicated September 25, 1887. The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Congregational Society of Nebraska was held at Hastings in October and November, 1880. The Ladies Missionary Society also assembled here, and reported having paid \$330 for the support of a lady missionary at Erzerum, Turkey in Asia.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, of Hastings, had its origin in as humble quarters as had the other church organizations of the city. The first services were held in the St. Joseph & Western Railroad depot, on September 29, 1872, by R. A. Crane. Hastings was then included in the Juniata circuit, and fell within the bounds of the Beatrice district. The class comprised William and Maria Hudson, Benjamin H. and Rebecca Brown, Richard and Lizzie Rainforth and Mary E. Ross. As the newly organized church grew stronger, funds were collected, and a neat little church edifice erected on the corner of Second Street and Kansas Avenue. On July 13, 1873, Presiding Elder White selected a site for the proposed house on the north side of Second Street, west of the school house, and by August of that year the building was enclosed and roofed by the contractors, Millett & Mulford. By some peculiar oversight the honor of holding first services was accorded to the Presbyterians, and the wily Rev. Griffes formally dedicated the partially completed building August 10, 1873. In April, 1880, it was sold to the Evangelical Society, and on August 12, that year, the corner stone of the present church house was placed, Rev. A. C. Crosthwaite presiding. The building was completed at a cost of \$6,000. During progress of construction the members worshipped in Liberty Hall. In September, 1881, Rev. Crosthwaite resigned the pastorate of the church and was succeeded by S. H. Hen-

derson, who was in turn succeeded by Revs. Brockway and Jones. The present pastor is Rev. L. F. Britt, who is credited with being the most popular of all the Methodist preachers to fill that pulpit. Revs. R. H. Crane, Hiram Hersey, E. J. Willis, who was here in 1874-75, Richard Pierson, Edward Thomson, A. C. Crosthwaite and S. H. Henderson may be termed the pioneer preachers of this circuit.

The Presbyterian Church dates back to August, 1873, when Rev. James A. Griffes preached to a small number of Presbyterians in the partially completed Methodist Church, being the first to preach under a church roof here. On August 10, an organization was effected by Rev. N. C. Robinson, S. M., and Rev. J. A. Griffes, with the following named members: Samuel Alexander, A. L. Wigton, Mrs. Mary A. Wigton, Samuel Reed, William M. Snodgrass, H. M. Palmer and Mr. Electa Palmer. A. L. Wigton was the first stated clerk, serving until 1881, when L. B. Palmer was chosen. In 1884, A. L. Wigton was re-elected and is now incumbent of the clerk's office. The following ministers have supplied the pulpit since the organization, viz: Rev. James A. Griffes, August, 1873; Rev. John Rutherford, January, 1877; Rev. D. S. Schaff, July, 1877; Rev. E. L. Williams, September, 1881; Rev. W. F. Ringland, October, 1882, and Rev. George T. Crissman, D. D., November, 1885.

The First Presbyterian Church of Hastings was organized for incorporation June 4, 1874, when the constitution was adopted. James K. Sample, H. M. Palmer, L. B. Palmer, James Slate, N. L. Edwards, Samuel Alexander, A. L. Wigton, John Simpson and J. J. Worswick were chosen trustees. The edifice in which the organization was effected was not completed, and the burning rays of the August sun pierced the unfinished roof in many places. A bundle of shingles laid across the top of an empty barrel served as a pulpit. In these unfavorable surroundings the church was organized. The first pastor, Rev. J. A. Griffes, conducted services in the school house for about two years. Afterwards Millett's Hall was utilized as a place of worship, until the summer of 1877, when the first building was completed and dedicated under the supervision of Samuel Alexander, A. L. Wigton and

L. B. Palmer. This building stood on the corner of Fourth Street and Lincoln Avenue. In 1888 the congregation outgrew the old building and services were held in the opera house, pending the erection of a modern house of worship. The second building was erected on the southwest corner of Seventh Street and Lincoln Avenue, in 1888-89, under supervision of the following named members of the building committee: Samuel Alexander, Rev. George T. Crissman, D. D., C. P. Webster, L. B. Palmer, A. J. Neimeyer and L. M. Campbell. The church was completed at a cost of \$35,000 and dedicated February 10, 1889, President Ringland and Rev. C. G. A. Hollhorst, of the college, with the pastor, Rev. George T. Crissman, conducting the services.

St. Cecilia's Catholic Church dates its beginning back to the establishment of Hastings, when Rev. Father Leichleitner, pastor of Crete in 1871 (successor of Rev. W. Kelly), visited the new settlement. This portion of the mission was attended by Father Leichleitner until March 25, 1878, when Rev. George Glauber was appointed in charge of the congregation. Prior to this date the services of the church were held at the house of Thomas E. Farrell, but now the work of building a house of worship was entered upon. In 1880 this house was completed, and the building of the parochial house begun. In December, 1879, Rev. E. Rhullier was assistant priest at Hastings. The first records of the missions in this section of the State form part of the parish records of Crete. The records of St. Cecilia's parish begin March 25, 1878. The first baptisms recorded are those of Elizabeth, daughter, and Thomas, son of John and Elizabeth (Griggs) Britt. Thomas and Elizabeth Farrell were sponsors. A son of Michael Hess and a daughter of John Young were baptized on the 21st of April, and a daughter of John and Patience (Brown) Farrell, of Ireland, on May 12, 1878. Other names on the *Liber Baptismorum* of this period include many of the old settlers.

The mission in 1880 comprised Hastings, Kenesaw, Roseland, Riverton, Harvard, Fairfield, Wheatland, Orleans, Sary, Lowell, Minden, Indianola, Juniata, Glenwood, Bloomington, Red Cloud, Arap-

ahoe and Inland. In 1881 Rev. James Simeon* succeeded Father Glauber, but Rev. E. Rhullier was continued as assistant priest. New names are added daily to the long list of baptisms, while the settlements of Cambridge, Whitlock and Franklin appeared on Fremont's "Great American Desert" as new missions of this parish. Hazel Dell is named in April, 1883, and Heartwell in 1885—the latter place attended by Rev. O. N. Turgeon, who appears to be assistant priest at this time. Rev. F. Schrafte was here in December, 1884, and throughout 1885. Services were held at Ellwood in 1886, and at Axel in 1888. Rev. J. J. Laughran was assistant priest in June, 1888. On May 15, 1881, Bishop O'Connor administered the sacrament of confirmation to fifty-nine children and adults at Hastings, and next day to twenty-five children and adults at Wheatland. On May 18 the sacrament was administered to twenty-four persons at Orleans, and on May 19 to sixteen persons at Indianola.

The first marriage recorded in this parish is that of Alonzo P. Cook and Agnes Fisher, May 12, 1878. From that time up to July 2, 1888, when Father Simeon signed the parish records for the last time, there were eighty-six marriages solemnized, and from that period until November 6, 1889, twenty marriages were celebrated. Father J. E. English is the present priest. During the short time which has elapsed, since taking charge of the parish, he has almost eclipsed the record of his life at Omaha. A church building, parochial house and the greatest convent building in Central Nebraska have been brought into existence. Among his principal helpers are Thomas E. Farrell, John Rooney, Mrs. Mary Stoetzel, Ezra Langevin, M. Moriarty, S. Kelly, who contributed largely to church building. The congregation embraces over 200 families, and the parish includes Kenesaw, Hansen, Inland, Glenville and other points in this district.

*Rev. James Simeon studied at the University of St. Louis, at St. Joseph's College, Bardonia, Mo., and subsequently in Germany and Switzerland. He was ordained priest at Louvain, Belgium, in 1856, and served the church in the Rhine provinces for thirteen years, when he returned to the United States. He was pastor of St. Joseph's German Catholic Church at Washington, D. C., and later built Holy Trinity German Catholic Church at Boston. He also served at Philadelphia and New York, and in August, 1881, located at Hastings, in charge of the wide mission field.

The Baptist Church is the pioneer religious society of Adams County. In January, 1871, Rev. J. W. Warwick preached at the house of William Kress, on the Little Blue. Three years later their doctrine was preached at Hastings.

The early settlers of Hastings whose religious attachments were with the Baptist denomination, organized themselves into a congregation in 1874. Rev. I. G. Newell was the first pastor, and the services were conducted in Millett's Hall. The organization did not develop much strength in the earlier years of its history and maintained but a feeble existence until 1879, when the Rev. J. E. Rockwood assumed control. Among the early members were D. S. Cole, Jacob Wooster, J. H. Vandemark, Frank Talmage, N. T. Eckles, Joseph Simms, Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Talmage, and Mrs. Vandemark. Under efficient management the society took a long stride forward and became firmly fixed in the community. After having guided the affairs of the church for about a year, Rev. Rockwood resigned and was succeeded by Rev. J. H. Mise. The last named gentleman began his pastoral duties in February, 1881, and in the following summer raised the necessary funds to erect a house of worship. The new Baptist Church was dedicated January 31, 1882. It is a neat structure of appropriate architectural design, and cost about \$3,000. Since Rev. Mr. Mise severed his connection with the church the pulpit has been occupied successively by Revs. H. P. Fitch, J. Y. Aitchison and H. C. Holden, the latter being the present pastor.

The Hastings Free Religious Society adopted a constitution July 14, 1878. John N. Lyman was president; George W. Mowery, secretary; R. A. Batty, treasurer; A. D. Yocum, M. K. Lewis and E. Steinau, trustees.

The same year Liberal Hall was built—a one story frame, 40x75 feet. This large hall was intended for a place of amusement as well as for worship, and in it the first religious bodies assembled for prayer.

St. Mark's Protestant Episcopal Church was organized May 3, 1880, by Rev. J. W. Greenwood. He came thither in 1879 from Honeoye Falls, N. Y., to the Nominal Mission Station of Hastings and

Grand Island, where he found a few members. On April 18, 1880, he performed the services of his church for the first time, and this action was followed by the organization on the date above written. On May 4, the society elected Messrs. N. Z. Barlow, and O. Oliver, wardens; and Messrs. Charles Cameron, F. J. Benedict, J. M. Norton, Emery and A. B. Ideson, vestrymen. The officers constituted themselves a committee to locate a site for a church building. On July 10, Bishop Clarkson placed the corner stone of the first church building, the pastor, Mr. Greenwood, conducting the services according to the ritual. This building was dedicated the third Sunday after Epiphany in 1881. O. H. M. and Robert Oliver, J. M. Norton, A. B. and J. C. Ideson were the members. Rev. John Love was missionary at the time; Mr. Greenwood was rector of the parish, followed by Rev. Henry Shaw and Rev. J. W. Gilman. The present number of communicants is placed at seventy-seven.

The Christian Church is a modern organization here. The members worshiped at the old Presbyterian Church for some time until the new church-house on Lexington and Fourth Streets was erected in 1889. Rev. W. T. Maupin served the church.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutherans of Hastings claim Rev. Mr. Torren as preacher, and also Rev. A. C. Tredin, who performed the services of church in the Good Templars' Hall.

The German Evangelical Association was established as a mission in the city of Hastings in 1879. Two years following a church organization was effected by Revs. G. G. Zellhoefer and Jacob Weingart. Rev. Inhelder assumed the pastorate in April, 1880, and held it until the past year, when he was succeeded by Rev. H. Illian. At first worship was conducted in the old Methodist Church, and in April, 1880, the association purchased that building and dedicated it anew for its own use. The mission at present includes nearly one hundred families, all of whom are Germans.

The First German Evangelical Church of Hastings was organized for incorporation November 8, 1879, with William Steinhau, clerk; Henry Stammer, August Forcht and the clerk, trustees. The society was formally organized in September, 1878,

and in the fall the work of church building was entered upon. The church house was completed in January, 1879, and dedicated on the 12th of that month. The school was also opened by Rev. H. Seikman. Rev. Mr. Stark served this church for some time, and Rev. Mr. Fritze is now pastor.

The Evangelical Lutheran Society hold services in the G. A. R. hall. Rev. C. S. Schaefer is pastor.

On August 10, 1873, a union Sunday-school was organized with R. V. Shockey, superintendent; Mrs. E. Palmer, secretary; W. A. Smith, treasurer, and W. T. Comby, librarian.

In the pages devoted to the transactions of the county commissioners, the annual progress of the school system of the county and city is noted. In the summary of the city records other references to the schools are made, and the names of the trustees or directors given; in the political history the contests for the office of school superintendent are referred to, and in the general chapter on county societies the organization of the Normal Institute is recorded. In 1872 the Hastings school district was organized with D. S. Cole, — Dyer and S. S. Dow, trustees. Within a short time A. D. Yocum took Mr. Dyer's place, and in August, 1872, this board placed before the district the question of voting \$4,000 bonds for the purpose of building a school. In April, 1873, a vote on this question was affirmative. Samuel Alexander was elected treasurer, and several changes made in the *personnel* of the board. Before the school house was built an injunction was sued out at the instance of George W. Donaghey to postpone building; but this was dissolved in March, 1873, and the school building erected. Before proceedings on this injunction were served, Mr. Dow, learning that Charles Kilburn was in Hastings for the purpose of serving papers, and seeing him in Wheeler's store, went out the back door and proceeding to Capt. Wells' office sold the bonds. Immediately after the injunction papers were served Messrs. D. S. Cole and S. S. Dow were arrested for disobeying the injunction; but got out on a writ of *habeas corpus*, Attorneys Bowen & Laird representing the prosecution. Subsequently Cole and Dow were taken to Lincoln by James Laird, and while there Mr. Dow visited the capitol and heard the bill

read authorizing the commissioners to build a court house at Juniata. Returning at once to Hastings, he spread the alarm, and that night a remonstrance was prepared and on its way to Lincoln. This had the effect of defeating the bill. It was revenge for interference with the school interests of the young town.

The committee in charge of the school house of District 18, A. D. Yocum, S. Alexander, D. S. Cole and L. Reynolds, located a sight for the building, and sold the contract to G. W. McDade. Early in May this body desired to change the location to Block 18, and to extend the plans; and McDade being agreeable, proposals for building were again asked for, and Col. W. L. Smith was the successful bidder. On May 30, 1873, stone for the foundation arrived, and the house was completed that year.

Three years later (1876) there were 122 pupils enrolled, of whom an average of ninety-eight attended. The principal at this time was H. W. Myers, successor of Col. Monroe. The school teachers of the city in March, 1880, were C. J. Davis, principal; Misses Dora Tucker, Jones, Parker, Clark, Edmunson and Mesdames Davis and Wigton. The school house in the western part of the town was opened by Miss Edmunson and Miss Moore in June, 1879. In July, 1880, the contract for a brick school building on the south side was sold to D. M. McElHinney for \$3,400. The structure was completed that year.

The Hastings high school building was destroyed by fire November 12, 1886. The insurance carried amounted to \$16,000.

Hastings now has five large public school buildings. The high school building, erected in 1887, occupies the site of the old high school building on High Street, between Denver and Hastings Avenues. This handsome two-story brick structure is 85x103 feet in size, with high basement, and a graceful tower 100 feet in height. The total cost was \$5,000. J. B. Molnux is superintendent and principal.

The West ward school building, a highly ornamental and commodious edifice, two stories and basement, is built of stone and brick, surmounted by a tasty tower and steep gable roof. It has six rooms with a capacity of 400 pupils, and cost

\$15,000. It is well conducted under the management of Maggie E. Molnux, principal.

In the South ward is a new and modern two-story brick building, with accommodation for over 400 pupils. Mary E. Palmer is principal.

The East ward school, a two-story frame, is the oldest school building in the city, erected in 1873-74, at a cost of \$5,000, and has room for 350 pupils. Anna S. Rogers is principal.

When this building was proposed there was an enumeration of scarcely twenty pupils in Hastings, and many people complained about erecting so large an edifice, fearing Hastings would never have need of so much school room. At present, with five more larger and finer buildings, the capacity is sadly taxed. "Col." Monroe taught the first school at Hastings in this building in 1874.

The South Side school, situated on H Street, between St. Joe and Hastings Avenues, was erected in 1888, and first occupied in the fall and winter of that year. It is a conspicuous building, two stories and basement, with tower, built of brick and well finished and furnished. It accommodates 400 pupils and cost \$10,000.

A sad accident occurred at this school, February 8, 1889. The teacher, Miss Aldrich, fearing the effects of a threatening storm, dismissed the smaller pupils, and as they were on the board walk just after leaving the school yard, the strength of the wind raised the walk and turned it over upon them, killing John Pauls, a young child, and seriously injuring the teacher and several other pupils.

Under the able management of General Superintendent J. B. Molnux, the Hastings City schools have risen to a high degree of efficiency. The system of a twelve years' course has been adopted, giving four years each to the primary, grammar and high school departments; in the high school the pupil has choice of two courses of study, designated as the classical and scientific. The classical course includes such studies as physiology, civil government, general history, algebra, physical geography, botany, natural philosophy, geometry, rhetoric, astronomy and Latin.

The burning of the high school building on November 12, 1886, was a great misfortune and caused

much inconvenience, but in the place of the old building was erected, during the summer of 1887, a far handsomer and more substantial structure, one that would make a creditable showing anywhere.

The completion of the South Side school building, in 1888, gave to the city five buildings, or twenty-nine rooms devoted to school purposes. These edifices are all of brick, except one, and of recent construction, except the frame, which will no doubt be replaced next year by a good brick of six or eight rooms. Hastings will then rejoice in the excellency of its school buildings. The public schools are the pride of the city, and a great degree of interest is constantly manifested. The enumeration of children of school age here is 2,400, taught by twenty-eight teachers, including the superintendent and principals.

Queen City Business College, conducted by J. H. Schoonover, was established at Hastings in the summer of 1888. It is receiving a generous support, and its various courses of study embrace such branches as are best adapted to fit young men for an actual business life. In addition to book-keeping, penmanship, commercial law, etc., there is a shorthand course under the instruction of Mrs. Schoonover, a practical reporter.

The rooms of this school are located in the Central block, and are commodious, well-fitted and furnished.

A. L. Wigton was one of the first to suggest the founding of a college at Hastings. During the summer and fall of 1873 steps were taken to have a college established here and the movement was encouraged by the Presbytery and Synod; \$20,000 was subscribed in lands and lots, but the grasshopper visitation of 1874-75 delayed the development of plans, so that not until 1879 was the project placed on a practical footing—the Business Men's Association taking the matter in hand. During that year the citizens subscribed \$50,000 in lands and moneys, and arrangements were made for the erection of suitable buildings; school rooms were opened over the post office. In September, 1882, the first session was held. Rev. W. F. Ringland was president; Prof. J. M. Wilson had charge of the Normal and English classes; Prof. George E. White,

of the Latin and Greek classes; Prof. George M. Whicher, of natural science and English literature class; Miss Abbie Brewster, of the department of modern languages; Miss Lou Vance, of the art department, and John Rees, of the musical department. A meeting of the incorporators was held in May, 1882. Articles of incorporation were adopted, and under their provisions trustees were elected.

The first officers of the board of trustees were J. B. Heartwell, president; A. L. Wigton, vice-president; L. B. Palmer, secretary, and A. L. Clarke, treasurer. The executive committee comprised the officers named, with A. D. Williams, Samuel Alexander, O. Oliver, D. Lowman and O. B. Hewett. They were all members of the first board of trustees, with J. P. Kernohan, of Grand Island; Dr. Baird, of Red Cloud; John Fleming, of Ayr; A. H. Sowers and W. R. McCully, of Hastings; A. B. Byram, of Edgar, and H. M. Giltner, of Aurora. No changes were made in 1883-84, with the exception of the appointment of Rev. J. L. Lower, financial secretary. In 1886 C. P. Webster was appointed treasurer, and Samuel Alexander, secretary; G. T. Crissman and C. P. Webster were added to the executive committee. In 1887-88 the officers of the board and examiners of executive committee were the same as in 1887.

In 1883 Prof. J. V. Collins was appointed to the charge of the department of mathematics and physics; Miss M. I. Dinsmore, rhetoric and English literature; and J. W. Brewster, stenography; Rev. D. S. Gregory, Rev. H. D. Ganse, Rev. D. S. Schaff, and Rev. C. L. Thompson were the lecturers. The register shows 143 members of all classes. In 1884-85 the faculty named held their respective positions, with the addition of W. E. Andrews, professor of Latin and history; L. T. Terry, of Greek and German; Miss Florence D. Peterson, of elocution, and Mrs. Emma Herron, of vocal music. The lecturers were Rev. Herrick Johnson, Rev. W. W. Harsha and Judge O. B. Hewett. There were 165 students enrolled in all classes. At the beginning of the collegiate year, 1885-86, President Ringland was professor of mental and moral sciences; George M. Whicher, of Greek and German; J. V. Collins, of mathematics and physics; Miss Dinsmore, of rhetoric

and literature; W. E. Andrews, of Latin and history; John Rees, of instrumental music; Mrs. W. E. Andrews, of vocal music; J. W. Brewster, of stenography, and Miss Ella Cameron, of drawing and painting. Rev. George F. Magoun and J. B. Cessna were the lecturers. There were 215 students enrolled in all classes. The faculty of 1886-87 comprised, in addition to that of 1885-86, Prof. Harvey Thompson, natural science department; Rev. George T. Crissman, instructor in church history; Rev. F. M. Hickok, in ethics and logic; Miss Kid-doo, in history and English; Miss Helen M. Cameron, in drawing and painting, and Mrs. W. E. Andrews, in vocal music. O. B. Hewett, C. H. Van Wyck (ex-U. S. Senator), and Rev. E. H. Curtis were the lecturers. Two hundred and thirty-six students were enrolled in the several classes. During the collegiate year of 1887-88, Miss Phillips was appointed instructor in drawing and painting, *vice* Miss Cameron, while Rev. George Williams, of Grand Island, and Rev. C. G. A. Hull-horst, of Gibbon, were chosen lecturers. There were 241 students registered in all classes. There are no changes in the faculty recorded in 1889.

J. H. Hansen donated the twenty acres known as the College Campus, while the citizens purchased seventy-five acres and donated the same to the trustees for college purposes. They also raised \$8,000 for the erection of the first wing building. In July, 1883, the brick work contract on the McCormick Hall was sold to McElhinney & Johnson, the carpenter work to Cisney and the plastering to Worline. The corner stone was placed July 12, 1883, and the house was ready for occupation in September, 1884. In October of that year the dedication of the hall to collegiate purposes was carried out by Rev. Herrick Johnson. The cost of this building was \$14,700. It was named in honor of the late Cyrus H. McCormick, whose gift of \$5,000 to Hastings College was the first gift received by the Presbyterian Board of Aid to Colleges. On the day the building was dedicated, Cyrus McCormick, Jr., added by telegraph an additional gift of \$3,000.

In February, 1884, J. B. Heartwell made a proposition to the executive committee, that should the citizens raise \$10,000 he would subscribe

\$10,000; provided, that \$15,000 of the total sum would be devoted to the building of a second house for college purposes. The proposition was acceptable; but only \$9,000 of the \$10,000 was subscribed and Mr. Heartwell increased his donation to \$11,000. Work on the second building was at once commenced and the whole sum of \$20,000 expended thereon. In the catalogue for 1885-86, the following paragraph is printed: "This building is yet without a name. The board of trustees would be glad to have some munificent friend of higher education, with \$10,000, adopt this finished monument, standing by the side of the one erected by Hon. Cyrus H. McCormick, and allow the name of the donor to fill the conspicuous blank in the picture and give name to this nameless building."

This building is much larger than the first one erected, although it is similar in finish and architectural detail, and is occupied as a young ladies' dormitory.

The Democrat, of December 27, 1889, referring to this institution, says: "It is a matter of great encouragement that the gift of \$15,000 during the past year came from Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago, the widow of that magnificent friend whose \$8,000 gave the name to McCormick Hall. While the citizens of Hastings have been liberal in providing for the college, aid to the amount of \$33,000 has come from friends in the east."

The Athenian Society was organized in 1883, and the Whittierean in 1885. The Hastings College Journal is published monthly by the faculty, while The Vidette is published by the students.

The convent building of the Sisters of the Visitation was commenced in the spring of 1889, and the work completed in December of that year. The community was founded in France, about 280 years ago, as an order of teachers, and is to-day recognized as one of the highest educators of women in all that conduces to the good of that sex. Some time ago it became evident that the community at Ottumwa, Iowa, would be compelled to erect new convent buildings or establish new houses. Bishop Bonaecum, learning something of the intentions of the sisters, suggested the possibility of an establishment at Hastings, and on this suggestion the com-

munity acted. A grant of ten acres was promised by the citizens of Hastings, and more than that in an expression of perpetual good will. Thomas E. Farrell made the donation of the valuable tract in that spirit which he has ever manifested since the beginning of the city. The eight property owners adjoining the present convent grounds agreed to convey to Mr. Farrell a proportionate share in lands in lieu of the ten acres conveyed by him to the sisters. The agreement was verbal, Mr. Farrell depending solely on the public spirit and honor of the parties thereto.

The Nebraskan, in noticing the completion of the building, says: "It is a building that will stand for centuries, a credit to the builders and the city." The ground dimensions of the building are 60x184, with stone basement, 10 feet high, constructed of Colorado granite or sand stone from the Tower quarries, laid in random Ashler style. There are three stories above the massive foundation, with a 20-foot attic to be subsequently utilized as another story. These walls are constructed of brick. This is an \$85,000 structure, but good management and cash for material and labor brought the actual cost down to \$52,000. The capacity at present is 140 boarders. The basement is divided into a large number of refectories or dining rooms, lunch rooms, kitchen, play and store rooms. On the first floor the main part of the building is divided into a commodious sanctuary, with chapel in center and wide corridors. The east wing is called the monastery, and is especially set apart for the sisters in charge. The west wing is the academy for the accommodation of students, and the front parlors assigned for the reception of visitors. The second floor is divided into two large study halls, well lighted, and six convenient class rooms. The third floor has three large dormitories and five music rooms. It is supplied with all the modern improvements, without which no buildings are complete. Every feature in the plan construction is highly creditable to those who had part in it. It is a Hastings building in almost every particular. C. C. Rittenhouse, a Hastings architect, made out the plans and specifications (after designs by Kiely of New York), and F. M. Trich, a Hastings contractor, carried the enter-

prise through faithful to every detail of good work and economy. Col. Hoyer, an experienced contractor of Chicago, in behalf of the sisters, acted as general superintendent. But the supreme control and authority in the whole matter was vested in Father English, who labored assiduously from the beginning, and watched every move in the construction. The buildings were opened January 6, 1890. On February 5, 1890, the first reception of novices was solemnized at the new convent by Bishop Hennessy, Miss Mary Poulter, of St. Louis, and Miss Mary Donahue, of Philadelphia, being the recipients of the habit and veil.

Masonry in Adams County is contemporary with its occupation. The first organization, however, only dates back to July, 1873, when the pioneer lodge was founded at Juniata. Under date, August 14, 1873, a call was extended to all Masons in good standing at Hastings and in the neighborhood, to attend a meeting at E. Steinau's store. This call was signed by G. W. Mowery, James Corbin, Sam Sadler, E. Steinau, L. D. Reynolds, L. W. Spier, R. V. Shockey, F. S. Wells, W. M. West, William L. Smith and L. C. Gould. A lodge was at once organized U. D., but not until June, 1874, was a charter granted, the number given being 50. The first officers were Dr. A. D. Buckworth, W. M.; L. C. Gould, S. W.; R. A. Batty, J. W.; E. Steinau, S., and C. E. Forgy, T. The lodge held its meetings in the school house or I. O. O. F. hall and in other temporary quarters until the fall of 1879, when it moved into the second story of the first brick block erected in Hastings—the one on North Hastings Avenue, which is generally referred to as the Masonic Building. This lodge room served its purpose until 1887, when the various Masonic lodges took possession of their present handsome quarters in Masonic Temple.

The masters and secretaries of the Blue Lodge were selected from the charter members for some few years. The minute books, so far as reported existing, gave up the following names of masters: E. Steinau, 1877; G. W. Mowery, 1879; J. J. Wemple, 1880; F. J. Benedict, 1881; G. H. Pratt, 1882; D. M. McElhinney, 1883; Joseph Meyer, 1884; D. M. McElhinney, 1885; E. C. Webster,

1886; C. C. Rittenhouse, 1887; W. S. McKinney, 1888; W. F. Buchanan, 1887.

Secretaries: J. J. Wemple, 1877; T. J. Pardoe, 1879; E. Steinau, 1880; J. J. Wemple, 1881; A. F. Boston, 1882-83; Claus Frahm, 1884; F. D. Taggart, 1885; W. S. McKinney, 1886; W. F. Buchanan, 1887; E. N. Winslow, 1888; H. C. Armfield, 1889; A. H. Farrens. The membership at present is about 150.

Hastings Chapter No. 21, R. A. M., was chartered January 14, 1881, A. I. 2,411, with the following officers: J. J. Wemple, H. P.; Emanuel Fist, K.; J. S. Allison, S.; R. W. Oliver, Treas.; William Cline, Sec.; J. J. Raymaker, C. of H.; G. J. Evans, Sojr.; Joseph Meyer, R. A. C.; Jacob Fisher, G. M. 3 V.; B. F. Rawalt, G. M. 2 V.; J. Vandemark, G. M. 1 V. and M. L. Alexander, S. Since that time the Chapter has been presided over by John J. Wemple, Emanuel Fist, Joseph S. Allison, John J. Raymaker, Benjamin F. Rawalt, D. M. McElhinney and Edwin C. Webster. C. C. Rittenhouse is the present high priest of the Chapter. The office of secretary has been filled by W. M. Cline, E. C. Webster, W. S. McKinney and R. W. Oliver, while W. S. McKinney is the present incumbent. There were seventy-four members in February, 1890.

Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, K. T., was created February 22, A. D., 1881, with the following Sir Knights as officers and members: John J. Wemple, E. C.; John J. Raymaker, G.; Joseph S. Allison, C. G.; Benjamin F. Rawalt, P.; J. W. Small, S. W.; T. F. Pardoe, J. W.; Oswald Oliver, Rec.; Robert W. Oliver, Treas.; Morris L. Alexander, S. B.; E. H. Bartlett, S. B., and Jacob Fisher, W.

A charter was granted April 27, 1881, to the following named members (the officers named were elected June 14): John J. Wemple, E. C.; Joseph S. Allison, C. of G.; John J. Raymaker, G.; Benjamin F. Rawalt, P.; J. W. Small, S. W.; W. H. Lanning, J. W.; R. W. Oliver, T.; Oswald Oliver, M. L. Alexander, St. B.; George H. Bott, Jacob Fisher, W.; J. G. Hayzlett, E. H. Bartlett, S. B.; W. M. Cline, C. of G.; Jacob Miller, J. A. Tulleys, G. M. 3 V.; Fred J. Benedict, J. J. Wagen, G. M.

2 V.; Charles Cameron, C. K. Lawson, A. L. Webb, Henry Gibbon, G. M. 1 V.; Paul Kulmuck, R. E. Borney.

The following is a list of past eminent commanders: John J. Wemple, Benjamin F. Rawalt, Jacob Fisher and Fred J. Benedict. The past recorders are named as follows: Oswald Oliver, Charles C. Rittenhouse, William F. Buchanan, Joseph R. Sims. The Commandery now claims seventy-nine members.

Fiducia Lodge of Perfection No. 3, A. and A. S. R., was founded October 6, 1883, and chartered December 20, that year, with twenty members. To the original roll thirteen members were added, and of the total, thirty-three, there are twenty-two members now belonging. The masters of the lodge have been Benjamin F. Rawalt, 33°, John J. Wemple, 32°, and Francis Naulteus, 32°. William F. Schultheis, 32°, was the first secretary, succeeded by Edwin C. Webster, 33°.

Hastings Council No. 8, R. and S. M., was chartered by the Grand Council, December 13, 1887, with twenty-seven members, namely: C. L. Alexander, M. L. Alexander, W. F. Buchanan, F. J. Benedict, W. M. Cline, Emanuel Fist, Jacob Fisher, C. K. Lawson, B. S. Morrill, D. M. McElHinne, W. S. McKinney, James C. McNaughton, Francis Naulteus, R. W. Oliver, G. H. Pratt, B. F. Rawalt, C. C. Rittenhouse, E. H. Reed, F. J. Schaufelberger, Levi Stone, J. R. Sims, J. H. Scales, J. J. Wemple, E. C. Webster, J. B. Webster, E. H. Bartlett and E. C. Sawyer. E. C. Webster was the first T. I. master, succeeded by C. C. Rittenhouse. W. S. McKinney has held the position of secretary since the organization of the Council. This Masonic body comprises thirty-two members. The triennial election, held in January, 1890, resulted in the choice of D. M. McElHinne, 32°, V. M.; N. B. Vineyard, 32°, S. W.; Morris Alexander, 32°, J. W.; Edwin Winslow, 14°, T.; E. C. Webster, 33°, Sec.; Charles D. L. Moore, 32°, O.; F. Naulteus, 32°, A.; C. L. Alexander, 32°, D. E.; F. D. Taggart, 14°, J. E.; W. F. Buchanan, 32°, M. of C., and R. W. Oliver, 32°, T.

The corner stone of the Masonic Temple was placed with due ceremony September 16, 1886,

by P. G. W. M. J. J. Wemple and the grand officers. The building has a frontage of 66 feet on Second Street, and a depth of 110 feet. It is 65 feet in height, constructed of pressed brick with iron trimmings. The floor is divided into three store rooms, which run the entire length of the building. The east room is a large double store room, 30x110 feet in size, with receding triple front of plate glass. The other two store rooms are 18x110 feet, and are also supplied with elegant plate glass fronts. Between the double store room and the one adjacent is located the wide entrance to the stairway which leads to the Masonic rooms in the second story—a reception room 20x34 feet, a hall 22x33, the banquet hall, the main hall—a room 40x60 in size, with a Gothic cathedral ceiling 32 feet high in the center. A number of armories and closets are connected with this main hall. The entire building is arranged with especial reference to the needs of the five Masonic organizations.

Hastings Lodge No. 50, I. O. O. F., was organized August 13, 1874, with F. Forcht, N. G.; Alfred Berg, V. G.; Benjamin E. Boyer, Rec. Sec.; C. M. Wright, Treas.; Melville Griffith, W.; D. W. Dalton, C.; G. E. Grant, R. S. N. G.; J. T. Ross, R. S. V. G., and C. B. Sperry, O. G. Among the charter members was R. A. Batty. Within a short time the names of J. B. Heartwell, James McWade, J. H. Fleming, N. L. Jorgenson, J. F. Hiler, D. M. McElHinne, E. C. Webster, W. W. Brown, A. L. Wigton, S. M. Clark, C. C. Rittenhouse, L. A. Royce and E. C. O'Donal appear on the roll. The lodge held its first meetings in the East ward school house, and afterward in a frame building on Second Street, between Hastings and Denver Avenues, moving in 1880 into new quarters in the old Masonic building on North Hastings Avenue. In 1884 it built and occupied a fine two-story block of its own on Lincoln Avenue. In November, 1887, the civil suit to test the legality of taxing the property of benevolent associations was brought by this lodge before Judge Gaslin. The judge decided that the rooms leased for business purposes were under the law taxable property, while the lodge rooms were exempt.

Hastings Lodge No. 28, K. of P., is the pioneer

of Pythianism in this section of Nebraska. Although it was established here when the Masons and Oddfellows had obtained all the prestige of numbers and experience in work, Lodge No. 28 won popularity promptly, and is to-day one of the most important local organizations in the State. There are now (January, 1890) 120 members reported, among whom are the following named officials: A. J. Nowlan, C. C.; E. N. Thacker, V. C.; Chris Hoepfner, P.; W. W. Johnson, K. of R. and S.; A. T. Bratton, M. A.; L. B. Partridge, M. of E.; J. L. Kehm, M. of F.

Teutonia Lodge No. 55, K. of P., was organized July 1, 1886, by John M. Dugan, with L. Hahn, P. G. C.; S. Schwaibold, G. C.; Samuel Hirsch, V. G. C.; Otto Arnold, P.; Dr. F. Naulteus, Treas.; John H. Yager, O. G., and F. Brenningsen, I. G. The members formerly belonged to Hastings Lodge No. 28, but detached themselves, owing to a desire to have an exclusive German lodge.

Uniform Rank No. 4, K. of P., was instituted May 21, 1885, with the following named members: James Walling, W. H. Lynn, George Delagneau, George W. Spicknall, W. A. Dilworth, John M. Dugan, D. A. Guldin, Chris Paulick, Samuel Hirsch, O. H. McNeil, J. H. Clark, B. F. Leed, W. H. Dodd, R. B. Wahlquist, C. B. Wahlquist, R. A. Boyd, George C. Dade, Frank Stine, W. H. Baldwin, S. Schwaibold, J. E. Gant, M. M. McGrew, J. D. Craus, W. H. Harvey, D. J. Berry, A. Yeazel, H. L. Edwards, Jacob Thomas, J. C. Williams, J. F. Ballinger, W. F. Schultheis, Francis Naulteus, Alfred Naulteus, Charles F. Barly, George E. Ford and Frank Barclay. The first commander was John M. Dugan. W. A. Dilworth succeeded him; subsequently Stephen Schwaibold was elected, and in 1888, Ed. N. Thacker was chosen to fill that position.

The first recorder was George W. Spicknall. George Delagneau and Chris Hoepfner followed, and in 1889 W. S. McKinney was elected recorder.

The roll of active members of this branch of Pythianism contains thirty names. The division is credited with being the best equipped and drilled in Nebraska. At the second last meeting of the Grand Lodge the first State prize was awarded to Rank No.

4, and to the commander was given the prize for being the best drilled captain on the grounds.

The Pythian sisterhood was organized in May, 1889, with Mrs. John Harris, Mrs. W. Dilworth, Mrs. George Tyler, Mrs. Curt. Alexander, Mrs. D. Guldin, Mrs. Ed. Thacker, Mrs. S. Schwaibold, Mrs. D. Barlass, Mrs. Mel. Tennant, Mrs. Joe. Williams, Mrs. Arthur Allyn and Miss Anna Breed, officials. The officers chosen in December, 1889, are named as follows in the order of rank: Mrs. Ed. Lewis, Mrs. W. A. Dilworth, Mrs. George Tyler, Mrs. Chris Hoepfner, Miss Ida Kay, Mrs. A. E. Allyn, Mrs. D. A. Guldin, Mrs. E. N. Thacker, Mrs. S. Schwaibold, Miss Grace Phillips, Mrs. Mel. Tennant, Miss Lena Schwaibold.

Hastings Lodge No. 43, A. O. U. W., was organized June 11, 1884, with the following named members: Dr. H. P. Fitch, Charles Kelsey, S. C. Heacox, E. C. Webster, J. B. Webster, Dr. A. R. Van Sickle, William F. Bybee, W. T. J. Comley, F. C. Mastin, C. K. Lawson, Jacob Wooster, G. A. Wigton, A. L. Wigton, J. W. Wigton, B. F. Rawalt, A. H. Brown, M. VanFleet and F. E. Waters.

In December, 1886, F. C. Mastin was chosen M. W.; A. H. Brown, F.; O. G. Johnson, O.; A. P. Brown, R.; L. M. Campbell, Fin.; C. K. Lawson, R.; L. B. Palmer, G.; E. E. Todd, O. W.; A. J. Millett, I. W.; A. R. Van Sickle and H. P. Fitch, medical examiners.

The officers of Lodge No. 43, in 1889, were Ed. Jones, M. W.; F. C. Mastin, F.; E. E. Todd, O.; G. A. Wigton, R.; S. C. Heacox, F.; J. W. Wigton R.; J. P. Roberts, G.; J. W. Fawthrop, O. W., and H. E. Hoklas, I. W. In December, 1889, there were fifty-two members reported.

A lodge of I. O. G. T., No. 223, was organized January 17, 1880, with 135 members. The official list is as follows, the order of lodge rank being observed—August Poole, L. M. Tanner, J. E. Rockwood, L. B. Palmer, S. P. Tuttle, L. P. Hawley, H. T. Lee, H. Poole, E. K. Wemple, L. Ulmer, H. M. Poole, E. Parker, S. Hayzlett, L. F. Gould and A. H. Bowen. In 1882 this lodge still held a membership of 107, and on January 19 that year entertained the Grand Lodge.

Queen City Lodge No. 140, I. O. G. T., was or-

ganized February 20, 1886, with the following named officers in the order of rank: B. F. Kimball, L. B. Palmer, John Cawthorn, Elsie M. Palmer, Alice Koch, O. G. Goodwin, Cora Gowdy, James Hester, Rose Koch.

In April, 1876, the Hastings Grange 456 adopted a resolution pledging the members to use all means to discourage intemperance.

Hastings Camp No. 277, M. W. A. (Woodmen), was re-organized June 5, 1889, with J. C. Ideson, I. F. Pierce, F. A. Watkins, E. O. Churchill, R. Stewart, P. A. Stewart, S. J. Weigel and George Woods. By the close of the year there were over sixty members enrolled. In January, 1890, the following named officers were chosen: Dr. L. F. Britt, Jacob Wooster, Wes. Montgomery, George Wigton, F. VanHorn, F. M. Michael, E. J. Parker, I. G. S. Cleland and E. H. Manchester.

The old camp of Modern Woodmen was organized November 29, 1886, with J. F. Ballinger, C.; Wes. Montgomery, A.; A. S. Rohrer, C.; J. H. Haney, B.; W. H. Lynn, P.; Fred Renner, W. E.; W. S. McKinney, W.; William A. Dilworth, S.; E. H. Manchester, A. E. Allyn and W. A. Dilworth, Mgrs.

The A. O. H. (Ancient Order of Hibernians) is a strong organization here.

The G. A. R. Post of Hastings is given in the military chapter. Silas A. Strickland W. R. C., No. 9, was organized February 23, 1884, with Mrs. E. O. Dilworth, Pres.; Mrs. Julia S. Bowen, V. P.; Mrs. Mary L. Garison, J. V. P.; Mrs. Jane Harlocke, Sec.; Mrs. Agnes A. Hurd, Treas.; Mrs. Katie Judd, Chap.; Mrs. Emily Stoelting, Con. and Mrs. Mary Gould; G.

The officers of the W. R. C. installed in January, 1886, were Mrs. A. D. Taggart, Pres.; Mrs. B. F. Smith, Angie Holman, Mrs. H. Zimmer, Mrs. A. H. Brown, Mrs. C. Dominic, Mrs. A. Boyd, Mrs. A. A. Adams, Mrs. Calahan and Mrs. J. E. Hutchinson, in the order of rank. On December 12, 1889, the following named officers were chosen: Mrs. A. H. Brown, Pres.; Mrs. J. M. Boyd, Mrs. I. W. Cramer, Mrs. J. T. Dowd, Mrs. Jane Doty, Mrs. F. Dalby, Mrs. C. Dominic, Mrs. Gouldsbury, Mrs. Will Dilworth, Mrs. F. Dalby and

Mrs. Jane Doty; Miss Della Brown, Mrs. D. M. Leland and Mrs. Dr. Howard, alternates to department convention.

Strickland Camp No. 20, Sons of Veterans, was organized at Hastings, January 8, 1887, with L. C. Bartlett, Capt.; C. Burggraf and C. A. Gardner, Lieuts.; R. A. Bruce and A. H. Bowen, Jr., Serpts.; Ross Dalby, Chap.; W. Yager, Col. Serpt.; J. B. Koch, Joe Alexander, H. K. Snively, J. M. Boyd, J. V. Snively, E. Carkins and F. C. Bassett, junior officers.

In November, 1889, W. C. Faye, of Chicago, district president of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, visited Hastings with the object of organizing a camp and making Hastings the head-quarters of the order for five western States. Whether defeat or success waited on his proposition is unknown.

The Union Club of Hastings was organized February 18, 1889, for the purpose of maintaining a social business club, reading rooms, recreation rooms, and particularly, for the promotion of the business interests of Hastings. The capital stock was placed at \$2,500, divided into 250 shares of \$10 each, and the fifth article provided for commencing business on February 15, 1889. The constitution of this organization bears 108 signatures. As the present list of membership encloses nearly all the best citizens, it is given as follows *vice* the list of charter members: A. E. Allyn, M. L. Alexander, F. J. Benedict, R. A. Barr, William R. Burton, H. Bostwick, A. T. Boston, W. E. Barnes, J. F. Ballinger, D. L. Barlass, F. C. Babcock, A. F. Bratton, B. Brown, E. J. Bloom, B. Bernhardt, A. L. Clarke, J. A. Casto, J. Cherry, J. Conoughy, J. D. Crosthwait, J. B. Cessna, L. J. Capps, W. A. Chapman, B. Cramer, Archie S. Campbell, C. J. Dilworth, W. A. Dilworth, B. F. Denham, C. H. Deitrich, J. B. Dallas, W. H. Dillon, W. M. Dutton, George Douglass, W. W. Dwight, W. C. Donaghy, N. F. Damron, M. L. Elsemore, G. J. Evans, H. L. Edwards, D. T. Evans, W. L. Elledge, Thomas E. Farrell, A. H. Farrens, W. J. Falk, J. M. Ferguson, F. H. Firmin, H. A. Fyler, L. H. Guernsey, J. E. Gant, H. C. Haverly, O. B. Hewett, Thomas C. Hurst, C. E. Higinbotham, J. C. Ideson, W. W. Johnson, George B. Johnson, J. C. Kuney, George

A. Kent, H. B. Knowlton, J. C. Kay, Ezra Lang-gevin, J. N. Lyman, W. M. Lowman, W. H. Lynn, C. K. Lawson, J. J. Lyon, W. P. McCleary, J. Musselman, W. A. McKey, Ed. E. Merritt, J. D. Mines, W. L. Marshall, F. C. Mastin, J. H. Miller, G. H. McLaughlin, S. J. Mattocks, A. J. Nowlan, O. Oliver, G. H. Pratt, F. L. Pearl, C. H. Paul, J. W. Pickens, W. H. Payne, P. H. Passey, L. B. Partridge, J. D. Riley, J. F. Riley, S. P. Rounds, U. S. Rohrer, E. H. Reed, C. L. Rose, J. C. Stevens, H. E. Schaufelberger, O. G. Smith, C. L. Stone, Nate Stone, J. R. Sims, W. B. Sheldon, S. M. Thompson, George B. Tyler, O. D. Thatcher, M. F. Trich, A. R. Van Sickle, M. Van Vleet, W. M. Vastine, A. Veith, R. B. Wahlquist, E. C. Webster, J. W. Wigton, George F. Wilkin, C. M. Weiss, J. C. Williams, George Wood and C. B. Wahlquist.

On February 15, 1889, Messrs. Elsemore, Riley and Webster were appointed a committee to obtain signatures to articles of association. G. J. Evans, J. W. Pickens, M. L. Elsemore, T. J. Benedict, R. A. Barr, J. A. Casto, J. D. Riley, W. H. Lynn and E. C. Webster were chosen directors. Three days later F. J. Benedict was chosen president; G. J. Evans, vice-president; John Riley, treasurer, and J. W. Pickens, secretary. Messrs. Casto, Lynn and Webster were appointed auditors. In June the present club-rooms were rented, furnished and dedicated.

The Bachelors' Club of Hastings, organized in November, 1881, with forty members, adopted the motto, *Carpe diem*. The president was W. H. Lanning; the vice-president, R. A. Batty; secretary, G. J. Evans, and treasurer, E. Steinau.

The Germania Club was organized in September, 1885, with William Breed, president; A. S. Yetter, vice-president; John G. Burkhardt, secretary; Leopold Hahn, treasurer, and Messrs. Padee, Schwaibold and Landman, trustees. Liberal Hall was leased by the Germania Society in January, 1886, and named Germania Hall.

The Republican Valley and Central Nebraska St. Andrew's Society held the third annual meeting at the Lepin House in December, 1883. H. Stevenson, of Inavale, was chosen president; John Allan,

of Grand Island, V. P.; Peter Fowlie, of Hastings, Sec.; A. Richmond, Treas.; Dr. Cook, Phys.; John Jackson, P.; Andrew Cosh, of Grand Island; G. A. Kent, of Hastings; James Ewing, of Wood River, and John Mitchell, of Riverton, directors.

Camp No. 1, Patriotic Sons of America, was organized January 9, 1890, with thirty members. The first officers were T. M. Clark, Past Pres.; F. C. Mastin, Pres.; R. J. Irwin, V. P.; C. L. Watkins, Sec.; Joseph James, M. F.; H. G. Knights, C. of C.; R. C. Corey, Treas.; J. M. Houseman, S. E.

The Hastings Lyceum, temporarily organized in the winter of 1872-73, perfected organization in November, 1874, Thomas E. Farrell presiding. The election of officers resulted in the choice of W. A. Smith for president; Mrs. A. A. White for vice-president; Mrs. W. W. Wilcox, secretary, and J. J. Rochford, treasurer.

The Ladies Quartette was organized in November, 1889. The Quartette is composed of Mrs. William Lowman, Misses Mamie Kerr, Freda Wahlquist and Zora Harlocker, with Miss Helen Officer as pianist.

The Apollo Club was organized in the fall of 1889, with the following named officers: Dr. Waters, president; O. H. Gordon, business manager; O. F. Farnham, secretary and treasurer; T. L. Burger, musical director, and has sixteen active members. Miss Maria Kerr is pianist, with Miss Floy Work as assistant pianist. The first club concert was given December 30, 1889. Harrison M. Wild, the celebrated pianist, and Miss Golda Breedlove, the leading soprano, made their first appearance here, the Ladies' Quartette and the Apollo Club appearing.

Prof. Rees' orchestra as organized in December, 1889, comprised John Rees, director and first violin; Benjamin Urquhart, second violin; Gustav Binderup, cello; William Rees, bass; Dr. F. C. Babcock, first clarinet; Will Sherard, second clarinet; Charles Schaufelberger, first cornet; H. H. Williams, second cornet; Fred Taggart, trombone; Ben Boyd and Arlie Gardner, drums.

The female concert band is one of the latest musical organizations.

The Hastings Base Ball Association was organized June 23, 1880, with C. H. Paul, president; John Stabler, vice-president; George T. Williams, secretary; S. D. Tussey, treasurer; J. D. Crosthwaite, captain; Edwin Boelich, umpire, and John Ballard, scorer. The team in harness at this time comprised these players: G. J. Evans,* H. S. Mulford, J. D. Crosthwaite, Frank Stine, O. F. Lambertson, J. J. Cline,* J. A. Dallas,* E. Hersey and Frank Miner. The Hastings Base Ball club was admitted to membership in the Western League February 1, 1886, the certificate being issued by E. E. Murphy.

Two lawn tennis clubs are in existence. The Queen City Tennis club has three excellent courts in the vacant block south of the high school building. The Outing Club has two courts at the Athletic grounds near the college. Among those men whose expertness has placed them in the front rank, are O. G. Smith, G. H. Pratt, H. W. Main, S. J. Mattocks, Bedford Brown, Frank Pearl, P. L. Johnson, Harry Armfield, J. B. McLaughlin, Charles Heartwell, Thomas Frahm, Harry Dungan, O. H. Gordon, Frank Babcock, O. Oliver and George Wilkins. Among the ladies may be named Mrs. H. W. Main, Mrs. O. Oliver, Mrs. O. G. Smith, Mrs. George Pratt, Misses Mattie Johnson, Helen Officer, Addie and Fannie Shedd and Ada Nowlan.

The Young Men's Christian Association was organized May 12, 1881, with the following named members: J. B. Heartwell, L. M. Campbell, Rev. D. S. Schaff, O. B. Hewitt, John Reese, J. W. Wigton, George Wigton, W. Snook, L. A. Royce, Doris Lowman, A. P. Green, L. B. Palmer, Rev. J. D. Stewart, George F. Work, W. E. Ullmer, E. C. Webster, Frank Haynes, N. V. Stine, E. B. Stevenson, A. L. Work, J. J. Wemple, W. F. J. Comley, D. P. Grew, C. J. Work, O. C. Hubble, L. H. Felt, Samuel Alexander, C. J. Doris, A. Anderson, C. F. Royce, Rev. J. H. Nise, W. Eates, George B. Johnson and William Brock.

The Y. M. C. A. building was dedicated November 13, 1885. The house cost \$5,000, and was built under direction of Samuel Alexander, George F. Work and L. M. Campbell. It is the first build-

ing erected in the State exclusively for Association purposes. Here, on November 20, that year, a convention of the State Association assembled. The building was exchanged in 1889 for the old Presbyterian Church house.

The presidents of the Association are named as follows: J. B. Heartwell, 1881; O. C. Hubble, 1882-83; George F. Work, 1884-85; L. B. Palmer, 1886-87; G. M. Gillan, 1888, succeeded shortly by D. W. Palmer. Mr. Palmer was chosen in 1889, and is the present president. The general secretary serving in 1885 for six months was Mr. Baker; O. F. Purdy and C. L. Kirk, in 1886, each for six months; Charles Kelsey, for a short time. In February, 1887, J. L. Ogden was elected, and is the present secretary. The present number of members is 147.

The Benevolent Union was organized April 24, 1885, with a capital of \$100,000. D. M. McElHenney was president; Charles H. Deitrich, vice-president; A. L. Wigton, secretary; Samuel Alexander, treasurer; Dr. L. Lodd, treasurer, and J. A. Casto, attorney. The board of directors comprised A. H. Cramer, M. L. Alexander, Jacob Fisher, Thomas E. Farrell and the first named officers.

The Benevolent Union Life Insurance Company, of Hastings, was organized in April, 1885. During the first years \$1,250,000 insurance was taken, at a cost of \$2 per \$1,000.

The Hastings Typographical Union was presided over in 1889 by R. E. Brown, with Ed. N. Thacker, V. P.; J. H. Bassett, Rec.; J. W. L. Miller, F. S.; F. F. Palmer, Treas., and Charles H. Taylor, S. at A. The executive committee composed S. W. McAtee, F. W. Cooley and T. F. Sturgess.

The Gazette-Journal Band, as constituted in 1889, was under the leadership of Prof. F. W. White. J. W. Wigton was treasurer; J. H. Bassett, secretary; Messrs. McElroy, Wigton and Thacker, executive committee. The members of the band were G. B. McElroy, Al. Boyd, F. W. Cooley, John Beardsley, C. F. Royce, S. W. McAtee, J. H. Bassett, T. F. Sturgess, George C. Hensman, Fred Taggart, J. W. Wigton, Ed. N. Thacker, B. H. Bowen, D. T. Evans, Samuel Payne and C. H. Taylor.

The Hastings Auxiliary Society of the Home for

* Now here.

the Friendless completed organization in May, 1885, with Mrs. O. B. Hewett, president; Mesdames J. C. Webber, L. Lamer, A. J. Millett and E. H. Reed, vice-presidents; Mrs. M. M. Michael, correspondent; Mrs. J. D. Stewart, recorder, and Mesdames J. A. Gallagher, J. P. Todd, H. P. Fitch, N. C. Baxter and Orrin Thatcher, directors.

A society to help boys was organized in August, 1886, with Mrs. C. J. Todd, president; Mrs. H. L. Edwards, vice-president; Mrs. Clemens, secretary; Mrs. A. E. Allyn, recorder, and Mrs. M. L. Averill, treasurer.

The Hastings Hospital Association, organized during the winter of 1887-88, elected trustees in January of the latter year. The members of the society included Mesdames J. M. Ragan, A. D. Yocum, Gillman, Douthett, Tomlinson, Nowlan, Bostwick, Oliver, H. C. Oliver, Fyler, Pratt, Firmin, Campbell, Kirby, Fuller, Benedict, Cronkhite, Halderman, Frahm, Hollingsworth, Rice, Lombard, Main, Burger, G. Burger, Smith, McDonald, Wing, Tussey, Webster, Barnes, McKinney, Brown, Holman, Cessna, Rose, Stone, Lepin, Stern, Fisher, Lindsay, Sims, Schwaibold, Unna, Leland, Hirsch, Edwards, Dilworth, E. O. Dilworth, F. M. Lyman, Shedd, Loeb, Clarke, Hartwell, Phillips, Pearl, Lanning, Reed, Farrell, J. De Rocher, Miss M. Jones, Messrs. Clyde, Sewell, Kerr, Kent, Hampshire and Cameron.

The board of managers for 1890 consists of the following: Mesdames Stone, Bostwick, Reed, Barr, Ragan, Frahm, Kirby, Smith, Shedd, Pearl, Moriarity, Main, Loeb, Rosenfeld, Fuller and Miss Margaret Jones. The following officers for the year were elected in January: Mrs. J. M. Ragan, president; Mrs. W. H. Main, vice-president; Mrs. O. G. Smith, secretary; Mrs. Claus Frahm, treasurer.

The Hastings Trotting Association was organized in February, 1886, with C. K. Lawson, president; Leopold Hahn, vice-president; A. L. Clarke, treasurer; F. J. Benedict, S. J. Weigle and L. Hahn, executive committee.

The Hastings Driving Park Association was organized December 12, 1889. A temporary organization was effected by the election of A. L. Clarke, president; W. P. McCreary, secretary, and Fred

Blake, treasurer. It was agreed to organize with a capital stock of \$5,000, with the privilege of increasing it to \$10,000, if necessary. The stock is to be divided into shares of \$25 each. The object of this organization is to construct a mile track, erect the necessary buildings, and then foster the growing of thoroughbred horses.

The Hastings Cemetery Association was organized January 19, 1886, and the following named trustees elected: O. B. Hewett, A. L. Clarke, S. Alexander, Davis Lowman, F. H. Firmin, T. E. Farrell, Jacob Fisher, D. M. McElhinney and J. B. Heartwell. The clerk appointed was S. Alexander.

The Mt. Sinai Cemetery Association was organized January 24, 1886, with J. C. Rosenfeld, president; Emanuel Fist, vice-president; J. Mitchell, secretary; M. Stern, treasurer; Aaron May, L. Stone and Samuel Hirsch, trustees.

The solid brick and stone business blocks which have been partially or wholly completed in Hastings during the year ending March, 1888, may be summed up as follows, the property of those persons or corporations named: J. W. Davis' block, \$35,000; Weingart block, \$28,000; Stern block, \$7,000; Hastings Building Association, \$20,000; Mrs. Mow, \$10,000; Bostwick, Shellak and Cramer block, \$36,000; J. F. Ballinger, \$3,500; Mrs. Lee, \$3,500; Mr. Fawthrop, \$3,500; Electric Light building, \$4,000; Jacob Wooster, \$1,500; Lincoln Avenue Building Association, \$40,000; Enterprise Building Association; \$40,000; Henry Shedd and C. L. Jones, \$20,000; A. W. Binderup & Dyer Bros., \$16,000; S. C. Dille, \$7,500; Natatorium, \$5,000; new High School building, \$25,500; street car stables, \$3,500; Masonic Temple, \$30,000; West ward school building, \$18,000; addition to South ward school building, \$5,000; J. E. Gant's "Terrace Row," \$25,000; total for brick buildings, \$354,000. The general improvements comprise: For residences, \$500,000; for improvements on residences, \$125,000; city water works, \$85,000; for water works in private residences, \$28,000; for lumber for culverts and crossings, \$1,500; for bridges and culverts, \$5,795; labor on streets, grading, etc., \$3,204; electric light plant, \$20,000; sidewalks, \$3,100; street car lines and equipments,

\$100,000; improvements on gas works and extension of gas mains, \$12,000; Chicago & Northwestern, new track, depot, switches, etc., \$150,000; Burlington & Missouri Railroad, new switches, sheds, etc., \$75,000; total general improvements, \$1,105,596.

The Presbyterian Church asylum for the incurable insane, the court house and the convent of the Sisters of the Visitation are the great buildings of 1889—the greatest in Nebraska outside of Omaha and Lincoln.

In the original bill of appropriation for the State Insane Asylum at Hastings in 1887 a mistake of \$74,925 was made in engrossing it. The bill as passed showed only \$75 as the total appropriation. Of course, the error was corrected at the next ses-

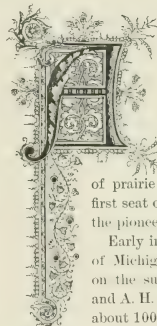
sion, and the work of building entered upon. The first occupation of the asylum was made August 1, 1889, when forty incurable insane were brought hither from Lincoln. The officers of the institution are Dr. M. W. Stone, superintendent; Dr. F. F. Test, hospital physician; J. W. Liveringhouse, steward; Mrs. Helen Slater, matron, and H. O. Beatty, accountant. The building was designed by C. C. Rittenhouse, is of three stories 112x176, with wings 156 feet each. There are now 131 patients in the institution. The officials have proven themselves well worthy of their responsible positions, and all that can be criticised is the poor material used in the construction of the building. Already several repairs have been made, and many more are needed.



CHAPTER XVIII.

TOWNS OUTSIDE OF HASTINGS—JUNIATA'S HISTORY—AS THE OLD COUNTY SEAT—DEVELOPMENT—PRESENT INTERESTS—REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS—SKETCH OF KENESAW AND VICINITY—ITS FOUNDING AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH—SOME FIRST THINGS—AYR VILLAGE—HANSEN—MILLINGTON—ROSELAND—MAYFLOWER—HOLSTEIN—OTHER CENTERS OF COMMERCIAL NOTE—INLAND—LUDLOW.

The constant tenor of their well-spent days
No less deserved a just return of praise.—*Popo.*



THE JUNIATA was established the first village within Adams County. It is true that Inland was surveyed before Juniata; but the plat was vacated and the name given to another tract of prairie in Clay County, leaving the first seat of justice the honor of being the pioneer of Adams County villages.

Early in 1871 a number of citizens of Michigan immigrated to this point on the suggestion of Samuel L. Brass and A. H. Bowen. Within a few months about 100 families, some of whom were pioneers of Michigan, came in. The conditions which marked their early life amid the oak openings or pine woods of the fair peninsula were not found here. The beautiful prairie waited for its development by them. The great animals, which hitherto roamed at will, appeared singly or in groups to look with surprise on the latest addition to the invaders, and the Indians came hither to view them and ponder on the change. John and Isaac Stark and Titus and C. C. Babcock entered the section which was surveyed into lots, as shown in the chapter on the settlement of the county.

The town of Juniata was surveyed and platted in November, 1871, for Charles F. Morse, by An-

selmo B. Smith, surveyor, on a part of the east half of northeast quarter, and a part of the east half of southwest quarter, and the west part of the southeast quarter, and the west part of the northeast quarter of Section 12, Township 7, Range 11, embracing 322½ acres. South Street forms the south line of the town, with streets First to Tenth inclusive running parallel, South and North Depot Streets along the railroad, and Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets running due east and west, north of railroad. The avenues running north and south, beginning 160 feet east of west line of survey, are named Republican, Platte, Blue, Juniata, Adams, Bowen and Brass. Immediately after this survey John M. Jacobson had his hotel and store building erected, and early in 1872 C. R. Jones opened the second store. In January, 1872, the Adams County Gazette was founded by the Babcocks; in July a Baptist Society was organized by Rev. D. H. Babcock; the railroad was formerly opened, and about this time the general store of W. Birdsall and Frank Mitchell, the drug store of Nathan Platte and the lumber yard of W. L. Van Alstyne were established. In December the village was declared the county seat. By the spring of 1872 a small school building was in existence, and by the beginning of November the village comprised fifteen houses, inhabited by fifty persons. The school building was completed this year, at a cost of \$3,500, and a Methodist society

was organized by Elder Crane. Early in 1873 the grocery business of A. V. Cole was established. Ira G. Dillon's store was opened in August, and S. J. Shirley's restaurant in November. A Masonic lodge was chartered in July, and three months later a Congregational society was organized by Rev. M. F. Platte. Early in 1874 D. H. Freeman opened a lumber yard for the Cox's of Hastings, and a wagon shop was established by Jacob Swift.

In April, 1872, Titus Babcock was appointed postmaster, at \$1 per month. In 1881 William Knickerbocker was appointed, but held the office for only one month, when S. J. Shirley was commissioned. In 1879 the receipts of the office were estimated at \$14,783.70. Samuel L. Brass succeeded Mr. Shirley, and in December, 1889, D. V. Stephens succeeded Mr. Brass.

In August, 1878, the Ira C. Dillon elevator was erected. The year 1879 witnessed great activity in building in Juniata; improvements aggregating \$75,000 were added to the town. Among other edifices was a business block erected by William B. Thorne, at a cost of \$15,000. P. B. Hungerford, P. W. Warner, Ray L. Pomeroy, R. S. Langley, H. Barth, Samuel Dodge, Rev. J. W. Dobbs, Rev. H. A. Guild, Mr. Lombard and Mr. Light had residences erected; that of Ira G. Dillon cost \$1,575. Dwellings were also built for William Twidale, D. H. Freeman, E. Moore, James Laird, A. V. Cole and many others. In the vicinity much land was broken and improved, and many country houses erected.

On February 27, 1880, Juniata was threatened with a conflagration. A fire broke out in the barn of E. M. Allen, but it was finally gotten under control by using a large quantity of salt secured from the stores of A. V. Cole and W. E. Sewell & Co. The loss was some \$15,000.

In 1881-82 the business circle of Juniata comprised A. V. Cole, W. D. Sewell, J. H. Freeman and W. H. Burr, general merchants; W. B. Cushing, grocer; H. E. Wells and Edward Moore, druggists; L. F. Picard and L. B. Thorne, hardware merchants.

The Juniata fire of January 29, 1883, destroyed property valued at \$25,000. A. V. Cole, H. E.

Wells, Mr. Sewell, John T. Hill, Adams & Miles, Adams Company building, A. T. Showen, William Twidale and Company F. militia were among the losers.

Juniata in 1883-84 saw the burned district recovered with substantial brick buildings, and old business houses in a prosperous condition. D. H. Freeman, dealer in clothing and dry-goods, was located in a new brick block. Fred Francis was publisher of the Herald; S. J. Shirley, postmaster; Kelly & Hogg, druggists; C. R. Jones, George T. Brown and H. P. Stock, bankers; W. B. Cushing, grocer; Allen & Kettle, hardware; James Newell, dealer in agricultural implements; William Twidale, meat dealer; H. E. Wells, druggist in the new block; Mrs. M. E. Keelor, milliner; John T. Hill and Ad. Miles, proprietors of the only saloon; J. M. Sewell and Ira G. Dillon, grain buyers and dealers in agricultural implements; R. L. VanBuskirk of the Commercial House; George W. Carter's Central dining hall; S. W. Clarke, owner of Juniata mills; Walker & Watkins' livery; O. M. Lombard, blacksmith; Frank Wilson & Brothers, livery near depot; James Beach, meat dealer; A. J. Neimeyer, lumber merchants; F. Wadon, harness dealer; L. F. Picard, hardware merchant; Ed. Fowler, jeweler; Jackson, shoemaker; Richard Daily, blacksmith; R. G. Fulford, painter; F. M. Anderson, wagon-maker; G. O. Angell, furniture dealer; O. R. Palmer, drayman; M. N. Parmalee, express agent, succeeded shortly after by George A. Brass; William Spade and William Winters, builders; Rev. J. W. Smith (now a physician), Methodist preacher; O. A. Buzzell, Baptist preacher; A. N. Cole, real estate dealer, and captain Co. F., N. G.; W. G. Beall, lawyer; Dr. Emma Watkins and Dr. W. Ackley, were the physicians. A lodge of Masons, I. O. O. F., I. O. G. T. and G. A. R., were in existence. The large school building was completed in 1885, by Abram & Savery, and Kelly's brick block commenced.

The village of Juniata was incorporated June 15, 1880, on petition of sixty-four resident tax-payers. Ira G. Dillon, S. L. Brass, H. E. Wells, E. M. Allen and L. F. Picard were named as trustees. On January 15, 1880, a temporary organization was effected with the trustees named above, and Charles

Kilburn, secretary. The same organization continued until 1881.

On May 5, 1881, Village Clerk Kilburn reported a revenue to date of \$441.50 and an expenditure of \$344.70.

In 1881 the old board was re-elected—C. R. Jones, I. G. Dillon, S. L. Brass, E. M. Allen and A. V. Cole. The board organized with I. G. Dillon, president; T. H. Freeman, clerk; George T. Brown, treasurer, and B. F. Smith, attorney.

In May, 1883, Ira G. Dillon, E. M. Allen, D. H. Freeman, B. F. Smith and L. F. Picard qualified as trustees; G. S. Guild as clerk, and B. F. Smith, attorney. In July, Clerk Guild resigned and E. F. Walker was appointed. Messrs. Allen, Smith, Picard, Freeman and W. B. Cushing were elected in April, 1884, S. L. Brass was chosen clerk, and all re-elected in 1885. The expenditures for the year ending May 12 amounted to \$1,574.86, and the revenue to \$2,700.31. In April, 1886, George W. Babcock, A. P. Slack, F. M. Anderson, W. M. Winters and D. V. Stephens were chosen trustees, who appointed Ed. F. Fowler, clerk. In June William Spade took the place of Winters. The petition of A. V. Cole and sixty-eight others, asking the appointment of H. A. Moreland as marshal, was received, and George T. Brown appointed treasurer. In July, 1886, D. V. Stephens of the cemetery committee reported on the removal of the remains of the dead to potter's field from a street in the cemetery, and reinterment there in four graves. In November, 1886, W. H. Burr was appointed trustee, *vice* A. P. Slack resigned. In April, 1887, B. F. Smith, L. F. Picard, O. P. Palmer, Asa Neimeyer and E. F. Gettle qualified as trustees. E. M. Allen was chosen clerk and D. R. Ball, marshal, but H. A. Moreland was subsequently appointed. In April, 1888, B. F. Smith, Asa Neimeyer, G. G. Vreeland, E. F. Gettle, D. V. Stephens and D. H. Freeman were elected trustees, and S. L. Brass, clerk. H. VanBuskirk was appointed marshal. They were re-elected in 1889, with the exception of D. H. Freeman, who was replaced by A. H. Langjahr. Messrs. Brass and Brown, clerk and treasurer respectively, were re-appointed.

The first school at Juniata was opened in a house

erected for that purpose (by Ira G. Dillon and E. M. Allen), by Lizzie Scott, early in 1872. During that year a school board was elected—H. H. Ballou, S. L. Brass and Titus Babcock, trustees; a small building was put up by E. M. Allen and I. G. Dillon. Subsequently a building was erected at a cost of \$3,500.

Miss Lucy A. McFadden, born at Ogdensburg, N. Y., came to Nebraska in June, 1872, and for three years presided over the graded school at Harvard. Subsequently she was principal of the Juniata school, resigning the position January 1, 1880, to take that of superintendent of schools, to which she was elected and re-elected as related in the political chapter. A. W. Griffith was principal of schools in 1880-81. G. G. Sill was principal in 1882, with Misses Lucy A. Robertson and Nettie Winters, teachers.

In 1884-85 Prof. A. E. Compton was principal of the schools, with Miss Nettie Winters in charge of the intermediate department, and Miss Gertrude Smith in charge of the primary department; W. F. Bybee with the same assistants. J. H. Albright succeeded Mr. Bybee, and W. S. Webster succeeded Mr. Albright, with Miss Annie Buzzell in primary, Miss Elizabeth Allen in the intermediate and Mrs. Webster in the grammar department. Mrs. Webster gives much attention to school affairs, not only at Juniata but also throughout the country.

Juniata Lodge No. 42, A. F. and A. M., was established in June, 1873, and meetings were held in the old school house until May, 1878, when the society purchased a two-story building. The charter was secured June 18, 1873, and accepted by the following named members: Edwin M. Allen, William White, William L. Van Alstyne, Ira G. Dillon, Andrew Clute, Rufus H. Crane, Hillary Dean, Marcus C. Lindsay, Barney E. Swift, Russell D. Babcock, Henry Ormsbee and George Kuder. The masters of this lodge have been Edwin M. Allen, William L. Van Alstyne, Barney E. Swift, Ira G. Dillon, H. A. Guild and E. J. Hanchett.

Juniata Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., was organized by charter from the Grand Lodge of the State February 11, 1880, with the following charter members: George T. Brown S. L. Brass,

Horace Goble, Benjamin F. Smith, Josiah Hodges, Hugh A. Moreland, William Spade, John E. Adams, James F. Kelley and N. H. Manzee. Names of noble grands in order: B. F. Smith, H. Goble, George T. Brown, R. S. Langley, G. H. Hartsough, B. F. Kellogg, P. B. Hungerford, W. G. Beall, A. V. Cole, William Spade, H. A. Moreland, F. E. Kelley, B. F. Smith, O. R. Palmer, S. L. Brass, I. H. Rickel, J. A. Ferguson, E. G. Angell, D. C. Kerr and George E. Mizen. Secretaries in order: S. L. Brass, R. S. Langley, George H. Hartsough, P. B. Hungerford, W. G. Beall, A. V. Cole, F. E. Kelley, Fred W. Francis, W. L. Kilburn, B. F. Kellogg, Jesse Milliken, B. F. Smith, D. O. Stephens and W. A. Slack. The membership is thirty-six.

Miriam Lodge No. 43, Daughters of Rebekah, was chartered January 1, 1889, with Sisters E. G. Angell, D. C. Kerr, B. F. Smith, M. A. Brass, D. V. Stephens, A. V. Cole, J. A. Ferguson, Ella H. Rickell, G. T. Brown, E. H. Macklin, W. A. Slack, Mary E. Robertson, Sophia Palmer, Josie Moreland, and Brothers Moreland, Brown, S. L. Brass, D. V. Stephens, Rickell, Kerr, Angell, Slack, Palmer, Macklin, Mizen, Ferguson and Smith. The officers chosen in November, 1889, were Mrs. D. V. Stevens, N. G.; Mrs. A. V. Cole, Rec. Sec.; Mrs. Cris Hansen, L. Sec., and Mrs. W. A. Slack, Treas.

White Clover Camp No. 1,240, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized under charter November 11, 1889, with the following members: A. V. Cole, E. G. Angell, W. C. Frew, W. A. Morse, D. V. Stephens, T. J. Stover, A. S. Rogers, G. T. Brown and W. G. Aylsworth, officials.

In the general history is given a sketch and roster of the Grand Army Post at this point.

The military company of Juniata was organized May 12, 1878, with L. J. Shirley, Capt.; E. L. Dutton, First Lieut.; A. V. Cole, Second Lieut.; George Watkins, First Sergt.

Woman's Relief Corps No. 55 was chartered December 12, 1888, with the following named members: Mesdames Ellen Spade, Fannie A. Swift, Anna Buzzell, Delia C. Gates, Hannah E. Stephens, May Burwell, Susan Oliphant, Emma McKelvey, Sabrina Vreeland, Nancy E. Ball, Emma Watkins,

Augusta Knowles, Susan P. Cole, Louisa Konkright, Sarah Smith, Margaret Brass, Nancy A. Stephens, Lizzie Ball, Magdalena Mohler, Hettie Kerr, Belle Woods, Sate Smith, Mary D. Robinson and Ella Brown.

The charter was withdrawn from Geary Corps over a year ago by Mrs. Emma Manchester, past department president. The Council of 1888 and 1889, after thorough investigation, had the charter restored, thereby reinstating the corps and restoring to them their past presidents and all the rights and privileges of the department—the Council of 1888 and 1889 finding no just cause that their charter should have been taken.

Adj't-Gen. A. V. Cole, assisted by a number of members of Geary Post, instituted a camp of the Sons of Veterans in Juniata, December 5, 1889. The following officers were installed for the coming year: Ed. F. Gettle, Capt.; George N. Monger, First Lieut.; H. L. Sergeant, First Sergt.; Aubrey L. Twidale, Qm. Sergt.; D. M. Ball, Chap.; J. Miles McCracken, S. of G.; Austin Cole, Col. Sergt.; Will Babcock, C. of G.; Rufus G. Swift, P. G. Council, D. M. Ball, Clarence Vreeland, Ed. Hubbard. As the Herald suggested some weeks before, the Camp was named "Camp James Laird," thus perpetuating and honoring the noble dead in the hearts of Juniata people for all time. The unofficial members are A. J. Johnson, H. C. Hoover, P. L. Howland, Charles Buzzell, Carl McCracken, William Laher, John Laher, Thomas A. Ball, J. W. Thompson, L. F. Alves, A. H. McCracken, J. H. Stephens and W. H. Davis.

The hall of the Juniata G. A. R. Post was dedicated June 1, 1886. The building is 90x25 feet and two stories high, the upper floor being occupied as Post quarters. The lower floor was then occupied by the W. C. T. U. and Reform Association.

A Juvenile Temple was organized March 8, 1878, by Mrs. White, with the following officers in temple rank: Katie Bowen, Lulu Brass, Frankie Bowen, Freddie Hall, Electa Johnson, Rufine Swift, Anna Brass, Mrs. Schuyler and Mrs. George H. Hartsough; Mrs. C. R. Jones, Mrs. M. E. Robertson and Miss Nellie Babcock forming the executive committee.

Juniata Degree Temple, I. O. G. T., was re-organized in December, 1887, with H. A. Guild, Mrs. Twidale, L. B. Partridge, W. E. Oviatt, Mrs. Oviatt, A. H. Pritchard, W. Knickerbocker, Mrs. Robertson, O. Stever, W. D. Murray and A. H. Brown.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized here some years ago, and continued in operation until about two years since.

The Juniata Musical Society was organized in May, 1881, with William Winter, S. J. Shirley, Mrs. A. V. Cole, E. Thorne, J. W. Liveringhouse, James Newell and Miss Woodbury, officials.

The Juniata Woman's Suffrage Society was organized in February, 1882, with Mrs. Oran Pease, president; William Moreland, vice-president; Nellie Van Vleet, secretary, and Mrs. Rachel Steadman, treasurer.

In April, 1880, A. V. Cole, president of the Cemetery Association, with G. S. Guild, secretary; L. F. Picard, treasurer; O. Stever, D. H. Freeman and S. J. Shirley, trustees, petitioned the Union Pacific Company for a deed for the land on which the cemetery was established.

The old grist mill at Juniata, which was turned over to the county as a part of the Thorne estate, was sold to O. R. Palmer, of that place, in January, 1890, for \$2,100. The mill has been a piece of dead property on the hands of the county, and consequently the price paid was so much money found. The purchaser proposes to re-establish the milling industry here.

The first religious services at Juniata were carried on by Rev. Mr. Clarkson, at the house of S. L. Brass, early in 1872. In April of that year a Methodist class was organized by Rev. R. H. Crane, who held services in various places until July, 1875, when a house of worship was dedicated by Rev. E. Thompson. Work on this house was commenced in the fall of 1873.

The Methodist Episcopal class dates back to April, 1872, when Rev. R. H. Crane held services in the temporary school building. On June 14, 1873, a conference of the Methodist Church convened at Juniata—A. G. White, presiding elder, and S. L. Brass, secretary—elected William Hudson, B.

A. Brown, Shockey, F. S. Wells and George D. Dade, trustees of the church at Hastings. In 1874 the scandal growing out of some mistakes by the pioneer preacher created much dissatisfaction, and Rev. E. Thompson took his place. He dedicated the first Methodist Episcopal building in the summer of 1875. In 1877 a Sunday-school was organized with fifty members, by T. J. Adams, who continued to serve as superintendent until Miss Nettie Winter was chosen in 1881-82. The preachers in charge since Mr. Thompson's time are named as follows: Charles Reilly, —Summers, J. W. Smith, —Bristol, George M. Jones and Rev. Hiram Curtiss.

*There being a number of Baptist families residing in Juniata, previous notice having been given, and Rev. J. N. Webb, general State missionary, having been invited to be present, a meeting was held, where after free interchange of views upon the subject, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That duty to God, ourselves and the world requires us to erect and maintain the standard of our Redeemer in this place, that we here, now, pledge ourselves to God and to each other, to the best of our ability to maintain a church organization, to be known as the Baptist Church of Juniata.

On July 26, 1872, the church was organized with the following named members: Titus Babcock, Thankful M. Babcock, Charles D. Morgan. The pastors have been Revs. H. A. Guild, O. A. Buzzell, W. H. Brodt, H. R. Williams, P. A. Tinkham, C. H. Hands, and the clerks, Charles D. Morgan, T. Babcock, A. H. Brown, George W. Carter, William Knickerbocker, S. M. Roberts, G. G. Sill, Mrs. A. P. Slack, S. M. Roberts, second term, Annie S. Buzzell, S. P. Howland, and Annie S. Buzzell, second term. The church building was dedicated December 15, 1878, and the report of the building committee (T. Babcock, I. W. Stark, George W. Hartsough), received.

*The history of the church was prepared by Miss Annie Buzzell. The meeting to organize this church was held at G. H. Hartsough's house, February 11, 1878. Rev. O. A. Buzzell presided, with G. W. Carter, secretary. George W. Carter and A. N. Brown were elected trustees for one year; S. M. Roberts and Simeon Johnson for two years, and D. H. Babcock for three years.

The first sermon was preached August 4, 1872, by Rev. George Weaver. Titus Babcock was elected the first moderator and Charles D. Morgan the first clerk. The church enjoyed occasional preaching by Rev. D. H. Babcock, and Dr. Webb, general missionary, frequently visited them. On February 27, 1876, A. H. Brown was baptized by Rev. J. T. Milner, of Webster County, as the first candidate. May 4, 1876, Rev. H. A. Guild received appointment from the Home Mission Society, making him missionary pastor for one-half time service, he thus being the first pastor of the church.

The Congregational Society was organized in the fall of 1878, and Rev. M. F. Platt filled the pulpit until 1880, when the star of the society failed to show further light here.

In May, 1880, the United Brethren began holding services in the Baptist Church of Juniata.

The Blue Valley Congregational Society assembled at Juniata in May, 1880. The territory represented was 200 miles long by 48 to 75 miles wide, embracing 44 churches.

The Gazette was established in January, 1872, by the Babcock Brothers. In 1876 the office was moved to Hastings, leaving the field to the Herald, which was established on October 25, 1876, by A. H. Brown, representing a committee of citizens. It was variously conducted, as shown in the chapter on journalism, until 1885. On August 6, 1885, I. H. Rickell succeeded Mr. Royce, who leased the office, and, purchasing the office from the town, became owner of the Herald.

The Gazette fought the first battle for retaining the county seat. The Herald took the leading part of the defenders during the battle of 1877, and like a loyal knight, stood by the defeated party until the close of that struggle, and abides with that party still.

The Juniata Flouring Mill was erected in 1874 by R. S. Langley and D. H. Freeman, at an expense of \$12,000, on the strength of bonds voted by the precinct. The question of the validity of such bonds was carried into the courts, where an unfavorable decision was ultimately handed down. The history of this bonding business and the votes on the question are given in the transactions of the com-

missioners, and in the political chapter. The machinery was purchased at Indianapolis, Ind., and a mortgage for \$8,000 given thereon. The mortgage was foreclosed, and the building was sold to S. W. Clark, who operated it for some time. It is now closed.

The banking house of C. R. Jones & Co. was established in 1879, by C. R. Jones and J. M. Sewell, two of the leading business men of the county at that time.

The establishment of the poor farm dates back to 1873. The first superintendent was the first county charge. This concern was located four miles south of Juniata, and, as shown in the pages devoted to the acts of the commissioners, occupied much of their attention. On one occasion, at least, charges were preferred against the superintendent, which the commissioners declared were unsustainable.

The little court house, untenanted and lonely, still stands at Juniata as a souvenir of the past. Around it cluster all the memories of the old board of commissioners, as well as the old bar and the old litigants of the county. Here, too, centered the object of two civil wars—the first sustaining the claim of the little frame building and the village in which it was situated; the second setting aside the claims of both. The wars were bitter ones. During the last fight citizens of Hastings organized for the purpose of insuring a true count, and it is said many of them went to Juniata to superintend the counting of the vote. The counting was satisfactory to Hastings, but not to Juniata; and thus the war was transferred from the ballot-box to the courts. Judge Gaslin appointed a commission to gather all the evidence pointed out in the petition of the Juniatiens, and this, with other documents in the case, were taken to Kearney by him. Shortly after Judge Gaslin's office was burned, and with it disappeared all the acquired testimony in the case. The election returns were again presented and, believing figures do not lie, he declared Hastings the county seat. The removal of the records and documents to Hastings then became an anxious question; but the execution of this important act was carried out without telling opposition. Juniata lost the seat of justice.

Kenesaw precinct was assessed by Mr. Truman in 1879. He reported a population of 544—289 males and 256 females. During the year ending March 31, a number of frame houses were erected for the following named owners: S. S. Dow, John Cook, B. F. Schiegel, J. Shurriger, George Phelps, W. Z. Parmenter, J. H. Cooley, Jennie L. Hayzlett, who came in 1877; B. F. Armitage, H. M. Vanderbilt, V. W. Darling, P. Schneider, W. A. Odell, E. Budy, C. A. Miller, C. F. Keutzer and S. F. Isenberger. Two school buildings were also erected, costing \$700 and \$800, and several substantial sod-dwelling were constructed, at a cost of from \$50 to \$200 each. Three wind-mills were introduced during the year. H. D. Einspahr settled in the vicinity in 1877.

Kenesaw was surveyed in June, 1872, by Anselm B. Smith, for Charles F. Morse, on the central portion of Section 34, Township 8, Range 12—a tract containing 142½ acres, previously conveyed to Morse by Samuel P. and Eliza T. Howland, northeast quarter Section 34; by Milton F. Brown, northwest quarter Section 34; by Charles W. Colt, southwest quarter, and by J. D. Butler, Jr., southeast quarter. A system of street nomenclature, differing from Juniata in the matter of ignoring numbers, was adopted. Beginning on the south line is Larch Street paralleled by Spruce, Pine and Poplar south of South Depot Street, and by Maple, Elm and Ash north of North Depot Street. Beginning near the west line of the plat is Brooks, running north and south, paralleled by Forbes, Denison, Smith, Perkins and Doane. The greater part of the plat south of the railroad was subsequently vacated and the extremes of the north side also vacated. The plat was drawn by J. H. Cummings.

The first actual settlement was not made until the fall of 1872, when A. D. Williams located at this point. During the following winter and spring Mrs. M. S. Norton and family and Edward Moore arrived. The Nortons set out an orchard in 1873, and in the fall Josiah Hodges built the first business house, which he opened and conducted until early in 1874, when he sold his interests to Edward Moore, who continued to extend the business until 1879, when A. S. Thompson purchased the house

from him. D. D. Norton kept the postoffice and was railroad agent. He was telegraph agent in October, 1879, when the wires were completed to this point. In the spring of 1874 Amos Shattuck set out ten acres of cottonwood, one mile south of the village, which escaped the grasshopper plague of that year. During the summer of 1873 a school house was erected at a cost of \$4,000. James Cook opened a blacksmith shop here in 1874, and when the grasshoppers came guarded his anvil from the "pesky things," lest they should carry it off as they did his seed corn.

In 1874 Dow & Latta introduced farm machinery. In 1879 J. G. Richard arrived and opened a hotel in the S. S. Dow building, pending the erection of his own house. Early in 1878 J. G. Hayzlett moved to Kenesaw from Hastings, and purchased the grain elevator of N. L. Thayer. In the summer of 1879 G. B. Crandall came from Iowa and opened his general store here; Wench & Cook's lumber and coal yard was opened in 1879, and A. S. Thompson purchased the Moore store. Dr. George Williams was physician; Charles Sawyer began the erection of his livery stables; C. B. Nelson was land agent for the Burlington & Missouri Railroad Company, and also represented the Union Pacific Railroad Company and private land owners. E. O. Hildebrand was in charge of the railroad and telegraph offices; Rev. Griffin had built his cottage, and was preacher in charge of Methodist work here; William Worline, who purchased the Stebbins building, moved it into the village; while S. M. Brobst's drug store building was projected.

In the summer of 1876 a number of Irish citizens from Massachusetts settled in the neighborhood of Kenesaw, the Kane family being the pioneers.

Prior to 1880 people outside the Kenesaw district called it the sandy region. In that year, however, the finest crops in the country were produced there, and never since has a citizen said: "It's all sand up there."

Kenesaw in January, 1884, claimed the following business men: E. N. Crane, M. F. White and A. Barton, general merchants; J. G. Hayzlett, of the Metropolitan Hotel (a new house); George A. Lindsey, manager of Sewell & Co.'s grain business;

Cook & Cooley, lumber dealers; Barton & Collins, grain dealers; A. S. Thompson (a pioneer), druggist and postmaster; H. W. Mitchell and W. F. Manspeaker, hardware merchants; A. S. Martin, dealer in agricultural implements; R. B. Ground, in furniture; George Bechtelheimer, manager of Neimeyer & Co.'s lumber yards; D. A. Kennedy's restaurant; Smith & Shafer, dealers in meat; John Nickerson, owner of billiard room; L. C. White, barber, J. Williams, physician; Misses Ostler, milliners; Cook Bros., blacksmiths; G. W. Hodges, laundry man; B. F. Armitage, insurance agent; Horace Armitage, builder, and George Williams, publisher of Times. Matthias Post 155, G. A. R., was then presided over by B. F. Schlegel, with M. Higgins, Q. M., and J. W. Woody, Adj. In May, Kemp & Hope moved into their new hardware store, and Gillett's bank building opened.

Kenesaw Methodist Episcopal Church organized in 1871. Its early history has been lost and most of the members connected with its organization have died or removed. It is known that Rev. R. H. Crane of the Juniata circuit early preached at the house of Josiah Hodges. In 1874 he organized a class here, the members of which assembled periodically at the school house. The church is now served by Mr. DeMotte, who also attends the societies at Prosser, Pearson school house and Ash school house. The latter appointment was held by Mr. Hardman until December, 1889. Rev. John Walker was first pastor, followed successively by Rev. T. J. Brink, rev. Isaac New and Rev. R. M. Hardman. E. G. Collins is recording steward, and Rev. McK. DeMotte the pastor. The church at Kenesaw now numbers forty members. The present work embraces four other appointments, and is in a healthy, prosperous condition.

The Presbyterian Church house of Kenesaw, built under G. A. Lindsay, J. N. Cooley, and the third member of the building committee, was dedicated October 12, 1884, the sermon being preached by Rev. George T. Crissman, superintendent of missions. S. W. Hayzlett, secretary and treasurer, showed a balance due on building of \$853. Of this sum, \$810 was received or promised on date of dedication. In 1877 Rev. G. C. Giffin visited the

Presbyterians of this section. The society was founded January 16, 1879, by Rev. George T. Little, synodical missionary, Messrs. J. G. Hayzlett, J. B. Ellrod, G. C. Giffin, J. S. Frank, Samuel Jones, their wives and Henrietta Moore, signing the articles of association. Mr. Giffin, the first pastor, was succeeded by Mr. A. Folsom, and he by J. P. Black. The clerk of the session is J. G. Hayzlett, and the number of members forty-one.

The Free Will Baptist Church was organized November 18, 1883, with A. D. Williams, S. H. Williams, James and Annie Currier, Lewis and Lydia Currier and Kate Boley, members. Revs. A. D. Williams and W. H. Edger were organizing preachers, and they with W. H. Edger formed the building committee, under whose direction a building was completed in February, 1884. Revs. R. N. Borick, G. W. Knapp and E. M. Chace filled the pulpit respectively. The office of clerk has been filled by A. D. Williams, F. W. Rieke, G. Wolcott and Mrs. Cooley.

In August, 1884, Rev. Mr. Borick moved to Cortland, Neb., and Mr. Black took charge of the Presbyterian work here.

Steps were taken in 1878 to erect a Catholic Church at Kenesaw. Father Glauber was at that time the priest of this large mission.

The Evangelical Church was organized in 1878 with Ernest Budy, Green Cullop, Charles Oliver, J. W. Bobbitt, Reuben Budy, Mrs. Mary Jones, Charles Schliehouf, O. A. Bentz and B. Young. The pastors in the order of service have been Paul Gressley, — Leibhart, — McSesslin, T. N. Serf and Rev. J. H. Peters, the present pastor. The society has not yet erected a house of worship, although the membership numbers 137.

The Kenesaw Cemetery Association was organized April 26, 1880, with G. W. Baldwin, W. Z. Parmenter and G. C. Giffin, trustees; D. D. Norton, secretary, and J. G. Hayzlett, treasurer.

Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, A. F. and A. M., was organized June 24, 1885, and chartered July 28, that year, with twenty-one members. The first officers were installed July 28: H. E. Norton, W. M.; J. G. Hayzlett, S. W.; G. W. Wolcott, J. W.; L. B. Partridge, S. D.; E. N. Crane, T.; R. B. Ground,

S.; T. B. Booth, J. D.; F. H. Cole, E. L. Dutton, T. J. Fink, J. W. Bobbitt and Milan Young were unofficial members. The office of master has been held by H. E. Norton, J. G. Hayzlett, L. B. Partridge, S. H. Smith and F. C. Brosius, the present master. The secretaries in order of service are named as follows: R. B. Ground, S. A. Sayre and J. H. Cooley, the present incumbent. There are forty-four members in good standing. Officers in 1884 were F. C. Brosius, E. P. Gillette, C. D. Courtright, Henry E. Norton, J. H. Cooley, E. E. Norton, Marshall Morse, John B. Cook, Benjamin F. Cook and T. P. Booth.

The Grand Army of the Republic is referred to in the military chapter.

The Woman's Suffrage Association was organized June 2, 1882, by Mrs. M. A. Brass. Madam D. D. Norton was chosen president; Mrs. Hayzlett, vice-president; Mrs. J. H. Cooley, secretary, and Mrs. J. H. Roberts, treasurer. Mesdames Williams, Thompson and Cooley formed the executive committee.

In the general history mention is frequently made to this village. In an early chapter the storms of 1874 are described, and in the chapter on journalism a reference is made to the first newspaper established there—the Times. Years ago, when the argonauts sped over the prairies of Nebraska, the Kenesaw district was a favorite camping ground. Near the village is the Lone Grave, a sad reminder of the penalties attached to travel fifty years ago. The story of this grave and its tenant is told in the chapter on exploration and settlement, and in the same chapter is related the scant facts obtainable of Indian doings in that vicinity.

The village of Ayr was established in September, 1878, by the Southern Pacific Town Site Company. Within eighteen months it claimed three general stores, one hardware, one grocery, one drug store, one saloon, one agricultural implement warehouse, one livery, one lumber yard, two blacksmith shops, one boot and shoe shop, one land office, one millinery store, the Ayr and Commercial Hotels, two public halls, and two physicians' offices. Mrs. Richards was in charge of the school. The name was given in honor of Dr. Ayr, of Iowa, then one of the

directors of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. The site was originally the property of John Radcliffe, owner of Section 33; Ayers Goble owned one quarter section on the east, and A. C. Moore, a quarter section on the south, while south of Goble's and west of Moore's, Prof. Meyers owned a half section. The railroad was built in 1878, and to insure the establishment of a depot at this point, the owners of the site were compelled to donate every other lot to the railroad company.

Ayr in 1879 pointed with pride to its large grain elevator, two dry-goods and grocery stores, a drug store, a livery stable, blacksmith shop, and lumber yard, together with Goble's agricultural implement and coal yard, and Laughlin & McMillan's lumber yard. The post office established that year was presided over by C. B. Scott. James Fleming (formerly West & Fleming) kept the hotel; S. G. Clark presided over the school. In October, 1878, O. D. Barras built the first house—a small frame dwelling. In November, a two-story frame building was erected for hotel purposes by R. C. Fleming, and a house for general trade was opened by A. L. West and T. C. Fleming. R. C. Gregg established the first drug store at this time (later Koehler & Phar); John Richards' grocery, Hull & McMillan's general store; Peck & Howe's saloon and the Edgerton hardware house were all opened in the fall of 1878.

The petition for a post office in this section was signed by William and Milton Scott, T. C. Fleming, V. C. Rogers, and others, and resulted in the establishment at Gibson. The Gibson office was moved one and a half miles south to Ayr in 1879, and B. H. Scott continued as master. Early in 1881 he was succeeded by James E. Bovard, who served until April 1, 1884, when H. A. Howe was appointed.

Dr. S. A. Bookwalter moved from Juniata to this point in February, 1880, and the Millington store building was moved thither by Kress and Moot. The Methodist class of Ayr was organized in 1879, by Elder Lemons, and Rev. John Holland was assigned to the new circuit by the next Conference. During the ensuing few years the church was without a pastor, and the organization almost ceased.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized

October 4, 1879, with Peter Rose, Ely Burton, Peter Griffith, M. B. Foote, A. N. Hall, Hugh Knepper and J. A. Rice, members. The church has been served by Revs. Nathan Brown, Louis Barr, R. M. Hardman, — Harbert, A. Gore, E. L. Wolf and J. M. Carroll. A. N. Hall has served as recording steward of this society since its organization. On September 1, 1885, the church building was dedicated under the name Mt. Pleasant M. E. Church.

In January, 1884, the United Presbyterians held services at the hotel in Ayr. A Hastings man who visited the village that day noticed a number of persons ascending the stairs, and through curiosity asked what was going on. The landlord responded that it was a U. P. meeting. The Hastings man went up to take part in a railroad meeting which interested him, but just as he entered the room, the United Presbyterians opened with the hymn, "There is a land of pure delight." The disappointment he suffered destroyed his sympathy for Christian forms and music.

The first child born on the town site was Harvey Fleming. The first death in the community was recorded in October, 1881, when Henry Harm's twin infants died.

The Mennonites located a cemetery five miles west of Ayr, in 1880, and in May the society took steps to build a meeting house.

Henry Gund & Co's. elevator was erected in June, 1879, and John Robinson's livery barns were built. Later that year, Isaac Vanderwert established his blacksmith shop; A. J. Pate built the Commercial House, and Rev. J. Fleming erected the old Church Hall at his own expense. The first school was taught late in 1878 by John Gainer, a fine scholar, and said to have been a good judge of whisky. At the close of the winter term he entered on a term of drunkenness, left the place and never returned.

In June, 1883, three companies of United States colored cavalry camped near Ayr, *en route* from Fort Riley to Fort McKinley. The population at this time was 260, about equal in number to the colored visitors.

Little Blue post office was discontinued in March, 1879.

—Presbyterianism in the Valley of the Little

Blue in Adams County," is the title of a short paper, prepared by Rev. John Fleming for this work. He states that the first sermon preached by a Presbyterian minister in the valley of the Little Blue in Adams County was by the Rev. James A. Griffes, on August 10, 1873, in a recently built frame school house called the Kingston school house. Mr. Griffes was the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Hastings, then a small village. He preached steadily in this school house once a month, until in February, 1876, when it was resolved to organize a church under the name of "The Presbyterian Church of Kingston, Neb." Entering into this organization were Adam Melville and wife, George Crafford and wife, Angeline Mitchel, Daniel H. Mitchel, Benjamin F. Nole, Mailla Scott, William M. Snodgrass and wife, Joseph Snodgrass and wife, Thomas E. Davis and wife, Norbert Dehut and wife, John Lelonde and wife, A. C. Mather and wife, William I. Snodgrass and wife and Jane A. Vastine. Subsequently the congregation moved one mile and a half south to a larger school house, retaining still their corporate name, supplied by Rev. James A. Griffes and occasionally by other ministers. In the summer of 1878, a small house of worship was built in the immediate vicinity of Dyer's mill, when the congregation assumed the corporate name of "South Adams," and was ministered to by the Rev. John Fleming. In the year 1879 another house of worship was built in the village of Ayr, and the two churches came under the ministry of the Rev. Fred Johnston for some eighteen months. His successor was the Rev. Albinus Powers, for twelve months, and his successor was the Rev. W. W. Morton. In its first years the church was a flourishing church, but by deaths, and principally by removals, it is now reduced to a membership of sixteen and is without a pastor. The elders of this church under its different names and composing its session were Adam Melville, Oliver C. Rogers, Arthur C. Mather and George Crafford, all of whom are now removed without its bounds, except O. C. Rogers. Its secular interests are managed by a board of trustees, holding office until their successors are elected.

Kingston Lodge No. 54, I. O. G. T., was organized February 23, 1877, with A. C. Mather, May

Jones, S. M. Bird, E. D. Jones, Mrs. Willoughby, J. E. Davis, I. M. Dean, I. B. White, A. Sinclair, Lizzie Carter, Emma Carter, E. J. Jones and Elva Edgerton, officials in the order of rank.

In December, 1879, the first post office was established at Hansen, with James McGregor, master. He appointed Mrs. Maurey (wife of the railroad agent), deputy, while he carried the mail to and from Hastings on his own back. In April, 1881, J. L. Evans was appointed, and in 1882 he was succeeded by Jacob Smith. The village was surveyed in 1879 for A. B. Ideson and J. J. Wemple, on the entry of Charles and William Haines. In the fall of 1879 a railroad depot was erected. S. L. Loucks built his hotel. The general stores of J. L. Evans and B. F. Ford were opened, and James McGregor, as agent of the Paine Bros., opened a lumber yard. B. F. Fisher's blacksmith shop was opened in April, 1880, but Jacob Countryman succeeded him in 1881. In October of that year J. G. Honeywell purchased the hotel building. His father opened a grocery store and his brother a shoe store. Jacob Smith came also at this time, and purchasing Evans' interests, became postmaster.

The Presbyterian Society was organized on the 7th day of September, 1879, Rev. G. L. Little acting as moderator and Rev. D. S. Schaff as clerk of the meeting for organizing. The names of the original members are: Alanson Baker and his wife Alice C. Baker, J. L. Brockover and his wife Jane E. Brockover, Mrs. Isabella Carpenter, Rynceas Covert and Rebecca Covert his wife, Lafayette Dominy and his wife Sarah A. Dominy, Mrs. Elizabeth Gregg, Philopoena Huf, Mrs. Nancy Mowers, Laura Mowers, Ella Mowers, Jonathan Oldfield and his wife Priscilla Oldfield, John H. Powers and his wife E. E. Powers, Nancy R. Powers, Lucy A. Powers, Mrs. Jane B. Powers, Charles A. Powers and his wife Ellen M. Powers, Lifee F. Powers, Aaron F. Powers and his wife Ann Powers, Robert W. Powers, William Palmerton and his wife Carrie Palmerton, William H. Reese and his wife Jane C. Reese, James W. Smith and his wife Nancy Smith, Emma J. Smith, Augustus A. Stone and his wife Luella J. Stone, Letas W. Stone and his wife L.

Stone, Henry E. Ware and his wife Harriet A. Ware, Luella A. Defenbaugh. The first elders were Aaron F. Powers, John H. Powers and William Palmerton. The names of pastors are D. S. Schaff, Peter Wessels, E. A. McCullum, H. K. Bushnell, F. M. Hickok. Clerks of session have been J. H. Powers and A. F. Powers.

The church house was erected in 1884, at a cost of \$2,116, under the superintendence of A. A. Stone, L. Dominy, George B. Loucks and William Bishop, trustees and members of the building committee. This house was dedicated November 9, 1884, by Mrs. Schaff.

The Oliver grain house was established in 1880, when W. L. Baker took charge. Prior to 1882 two elevators existed here, with a capacity of 23,000 bushels, the Baker coal yard and hardware store were established, and the little prairie village assumed the proportions of a town in the volume of its trade.

Congress Lodge No. 173, I. O. O. F., was organized at Hansen, December 13, 1889, with S. M. Funk, N. G., and H. Stire, secretary.

The Heptasoples were recently organized by the Supreme Ruler of Nebraska, D. M. Morris.

A school house was completed in the summer of 1880, and opened in the fall of that year. Miss Sperry, of Hastings, was employed to preside over this primitive educational institution.

Congress Lodge No. 173, I. O. O. F., was instituted December 6, 1889, at Hansen. The charter members were D. M. Morris, S. M. Frink, John Wilson, B. F. Barr, J. H. Allen, Winthrop Jones, Howard Stire, W. B. Brown, F. J. Taylor, H. E. Ashley, Fred Albright. The election of officers resulted: S. M. Frink, N. G.; J. H. Allen, V. G.; D. M. Warden, W.; B. F. Barr, Con.; Howard Stire, R. S.; Winthrop Jones, P. S.; John Wilson, Treas.; W. B. Brown, R. S. N. G.; H. E. Ashley, L. S. V. G.; F. J. Taylor, I. G. This lodge was instituted by W. H. Barger, G. M. of Grand Lodge of the State. At the time of institution six brothers were elected and initiated—W. E. Lucas, Frank Lamphear, R. E. Williams, Aleck Kanester, William Wilbite, James H. Elliot. Installation of officers took place December 6, 1889.

A reference to the transactions of the county commissioners will show the steps taken toward the establishment of a grist-mill at Millington on the Little Blue. In 1872 work on this manufacturing industry was commenced by John Dyer; but before the completion of the mill in 1875, Elbridge and True Dyer became partners in the project. Power was obtained from the waters of the Little Blue. The Dyers located lands in Denver Township in 1872. Some few years after the mills were completed a building for mercantile purposes was erected. Within a short time (in 1880) this house was moved to Ayr by Mortimer Kress and W. S. Moot, or by Kress and Keith.

Roseland Township raised 57,702 bushels of wheat, 147,775 of corn, 14,747 of barley and 30,311 of oats, in 1884. Personal property was valued at \$31,086, and real estate at \$56,995. There were 349 horses, 945 cattle, 96 mules and 2,388 hogs reported. Silas Caton was credited with the best improved farm; John Winter with the largest stock farm, and Peter Griffith with the largest wheat field, 48 acres yielding 877 bushels. Matt Sheffering planted the greatest number of forest trees, while S. Caton and R. M. Boyd set out 600 fruit trees each. The greatest apple producers were C. A. Cole and R. M. Boyd, each of whose orchards yielded 40 bushels.

W. S. Hall presided over the school in 1879. In February, 1879, Rev. Shiffer, of the Mennonite Church, established himself on the southeast quarter of Section 15, Township 6, Range 11, near Roseland. The school there was then in charge of Mrs. Hartman, who also taught the preceding year.

Mayflower was established as a post office in 1877. A Burling, the present master, writing under date December 3, 1889, states:

"I would say, in answer to your request for a list of postmasters for Mayflower, Mr. D. M. Griswold was the only one before me. He served eleven years and I took it a year ago the 6th of December. The oldest resident now living in this neighborhood is J. M. Strahl. He came about fifteen years ago."

Holstein is one of the modern villages of the county. A newspaper office, a school house, a few stores and a number of dwellings point out the pro-

gress made in a few years. There is a Lyceum in existence here, among the active members being A. S. Thompson, A. L. Boyd, J. S. Fernow, Jennie Larson, Versa Larson, Mecham Bros., Holstein band, Mrs. F. J. Hurst, Joe McCowan, Dr. W. T. Carson, Ruby and Lottie Mecham, Fred Hurst, Anna Larson, A. E. Troyer and Eva McPeak.

The Dramatic Club claims Dr. W. T. Carson as manager and A. L. Boyd, secretary. Among the members are C. A. Sipple, A. E. Troyer, T. L. Ambler, J. M. Heckler, E. L. Hannaford, Jennie Larson and Eva McPeak. The Holstein brass band is another organization which caters to the entertainment of the people. With all this local talent for music, literature and the drama, there are workers in and around the village who made and continue to make the little town a synonym for industry. The Record and Nonpareil are the newspapers of the village.

The Holstein board of trade was organized in January, 1890, with the following named members: W. T. Carson, Pres.; C. A. Sipple, V. P.; John Hargleroad, Sec.; William Shellheimer, Treas. C. F. Keutzer, Frank Fernow and F. C. Van Veghten were appointed a committee to draw up the constitution and by-laws.

Mountain Ash Camp No. 1,035, M. W. A., organized last year, elected the following named officers in January, 1890: A. E. Troyer, V. C.; W. S. McAuley, W. A.; A. L. Boyd, E. B.; J. M. Heckler, C.; F. C. Van Veghten, E.; Dr. W. T. Carson, C. P.; C. McCall, W., and F. Y. Hurst, S. F. C. Van Veghten was appointed manager in the place left vacant by George A. Bentley. W. T. Carson was elected manager for the ensuing three years.

The Holstein mill was established early in 1890 by Shellheimer & Clark.

The Van Allen I. O. G. T. was organized in November, 1878, with S. P. Howland, S. Morrison, S. Nicholas, W. Van Allen, James Slote, John Plank, G. H. Howland, D. H. Hill, O. Hudson, Fred Browning, G. W. Hill, F. Van Allen, R. Raneforth and L. F. Gould officials in the order of rank. Many of the above named were connected with the old lodge at Hastings.

At Pauline, S. V. Bechtelheimer was appointed

postmaster January 2, 1890, to succeed W. E. Hanson.

The Lutheran Church Society of Section 12, Township 6, Range 12, was organized at Fred Wagner's house, February 11, 1873, with Herman D. Einspahr, Robert Hohlfeldt and Fred Wagner, trustees.

Pleasantville Cemetery Association was organized in February, 1877, with E. M. Beach, Robert Wetson, C. W. Wilson, M. V. Hatfield and R. M. Ratcliff, members.

The Missouri Pacific was opened to Prosser in 1888. J. H. Korner was the first agent there. S. G. Harrow was the pioneer of the district, and S. W. Smith, a farmer, took the first steps to have an office established at that point.

The Methodist Church at Prosser was organized in 1887 by Rev. R. M. Hardman. The Union Pacific Railroad official kindly gave the use of their depot for church and Sunday-school until a very neat church was built in 1889. The present trustees are J. F. Morgan, L. J. Ware and Don Steadman, and the present pastor, Rev. McK. DeMotte. There is at present a membership of fifteen.

There are prosperous societies at Pearson, Ash and Liberty school houses, and a total membership of 140.

The First German Presbyterian Church of Hanover Township was organized by Rev. Jacob Brinkema, July 3, 1883, with a membership of twenty-seven. The first elders of the church were Mr. D. G. Lay and J. W. Baxter. The deacons were M. Falricks and Henry Bradair, and the trustees Simon Van Boening, H. Meester and George Lay. The church was completed in 1884, and dedicated July 6, that year. Within the last few years the membership has enlarged itself to about fifty members. The present pastor, Rev. Jacob Brinkema, has officiated from the first organization of the church. The church and parsonage were built at a cost of \$2,000 or \$3,000. They are located on the northeast corner of Section 21, on land owned by Mr. Lay.

Inland was surveyed in the central portion of Section 12, Township 7, Range 9, in March, 1872, for Charles F. Morse. Tulip, Chestnut and South

Railroad Streets run east and west, south of railroad, and North Railroad Street, Oak, Maple, Beech and Alder, north of railroad. The streets running north and south, beginning on the west line, are Dryden, Burns, Moore, Pope, Byron, Milton and Sydney. The corner stone of the first school house at Inland was placed July 1, 1873, by Millard and Vandemark. As related in the transactions of the board of the commissioners, this plat was vacated in 1878, and the name and interests of the first town in Adams County transferred to Clay County. At that time there were three small stores, six or seven dwellings and a large frame school building there; but within a few years very few traces of ancient Inland existed.

Ludlow postoffice was established in January, 1880, with J. L. Huff in charge, on petition of H. B. Talbert and others. When Trumbull post office in Clay County was established, that at Ludlow was discontinued. S. M. Walker is the present master at Trumbull.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Samuel Alexander, well and favorably known to a host of acquaintances in Hastings, was born January 16, 1842, and like many other residents of Adams County is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Butler County. His parents, William and Agnes (Black) Alexander, were born in Ireland in 1801 and 1809, and died in Pawnee City, Neb., and Prospect, Penn., in 1879 and 1844, respectively. They came to the United States in 1837, and settled in Pennsylvania; but in 1855 Mr. Alexander and his son Samuel moved to Jackson County, Iowa, and three years later to Missouri. In 1861 they returned to Iowa, taking up their abode in Page County, and here Mr. Alexander enlisted in Company F, First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry, joining the regiment at Sedalia, Mo. He gave faithful service to his country until February, 1863, when he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability at Memphis, Tenn. By August, 1864, he had sufficiently recovered to again enter the service, and he rejoined his old company and regiment, and served until he received his final dis-

charge at Omaha, Neb., on July 1, 1866. After returning and remaining in Iowa one year he took a contract of grading on the main line of the Union Pacific Railway in Western Nebraska, and in 1869 took up his abode in Lincoln. The first years were spent in digging wells and cellars, and the next two years he acted as janitor of the State house. In 1872 he came to Adams County, Neb., and located on the northeast half of Section 12 of Denver Township, which is now a part of the city of Hastings, and the finest residence portion of the place is on this tract. Mr. Alexander erected the first business house in Hastings in July, 1872, on what is now Block 27 of the original tract, it being a frame building 16x20 feet. In this building was kept a general stock of goods, and although he went to Juniata for some time for his mail, a post office was established at Hastings in October, 1872, of which he was put in possession, receiving his appointment from U. S. Grant, a position he held for nine and one-half years. His salary the first year amounted to \$12, and at the time of his removal brought in \$2,000 annually. He has been a director of the First National Bank since its organization, also of the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company; and in politics has always been a Republican. In 1885 he was elected mayor of Hastings on the "no license" issue, and it was openly declared he made the best mayor the city ever had. In the administration of affairs he was wholly independent in the performance of his duties, and having the interests of the town at heart, he exercised his ingenuity and intelligence to the utmost. In every public emergency he has been a patriot, and selfish and personal considerations have been laid aside when the question of duty has been presented. In 1871 he was married at Brownsville, Neb., to Miss Hattie R. Phillips, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1852, and a daughter of Dr. A. R. and Harriet Phillips. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he was one of the original members of the church organized at Lincoln in 1870, also of the church at Hastings in 1873. Mr. Alexander and his wife have five children: Agnes E., Rachel M., Esther N., Frances P. and Samuel R.

H. C. Armstrong, farmer and stock raiser, Hast-

ings, Neb. Mr. Armstrong is one of those sterling men of Ohio nativity, so many of whom are met with in this portion of the State, who possess such qualities of character as make them successful and prominent almost without exception wherever their lots are cast. He was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1845, and was the seventh of a family of children born to John and Frances (Moore) Armstrong, natives of Ireland, where they were married. In 1839 the parents immigrated to America, settled in Columbiana County, Ohio, and there the father followed farming. In 1853 they moved to Knox County, Ill., settled near Abingdon, Ill., and thence to Warren County of the same State, where the father opened up a farm. He died there in 1860. His excellent wife followed him to the grave on December 24, 1879. H. C. Armstrong was early instructed in the duties of farm life, and received his education in the schools of Warren County, Ill. After growing up he went west to Page County, Iowa, worked by the month as a farm laborer for three years and then rented land. He was married in that county on December 31, 1872, to Miss Sarah J. Reed, a native of Harrison County, Ohio, and the daughter of M. and S. (Foster) Reed, natives of Ohio. Her father was a wagon maker by trade, and in about 1854 he moved to Wapello County, Iowa, and in 1859 to Page County, Iowa, where he and wife are both living at the present time. After his marriage Mr. Armstrong remained in Iowa until 1874, when he moved to Adams County, Neb., settled in Denver precinct, now Blaine Township, and bought 160 acres of railroad land, which he immediately began improving, and on which he first erected a small cabin, 14x16 feet. In 1885 he moved to West Blue Township, selling his farm in Blaine Township, and bought the 160 acres where he now lives. He was one of the first settlers of the county, and the first night camped on what is now the main square of the city of Hastings. He assisted in the organization of the township, and yet takes a prominent part in the upbuilding of the county. He is also active in politics, votes with the Republican party, and was elected county commissioner by the Anti-Monopoly vote in 1881, to fill a vacancy, serving from January, 1882, to Novem-

ber of that year. He served on the school board for twelve years in Adams County, and has always taken an active interest in schools. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hastings. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of seven children: John M., Oscar R., Edwin H., Fannie Bell, Thomas, Charles and Clyde. Mr. Armstrong has seen the complete growth of Adams County, and has experienced three seasons of grasshopper raids. He is practically a self made man, having accumulated all his property by his own exertions. He is engaged quite extensively in stock raising.

W. G. Aylsworth is a proper representative of the energetic business men of the county, and he seems admirably suited to his present calling. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., in 1844, and is a son of Aaron and Julia (French) Aylsworth, the former of whom was an agriculturist throughout his long life of seventy-five years, his death occurring in 1883. His wife died three years later, having borne him nine children, two sons and seven daughters, W. G. Aylsworth and his sister, Mrs. Bennett, being residents of Juniata. The former's youth was spent in learning the intricacies of farm labor, and until he was twenty years of age he was an attendant of the common schools, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of the English branches. In 1864 he enlisted in Company B, Ninety-eighth New York Infantry, but on account of the war being practically over, he was discharged on September 22 of that year, and returned to his former occupation of following the plow in his native State, which received his attention until 1870, when he moved to Michigan and settled in Barry County, and was engaged in clerking in a store for three years. He then returned to his native State and farmed two years, at the end of which time he again returned to Michigan, which State was his home until 1884. During this time the occupation of merchandising received his attention at Nashville, but on March 30, of the above named year, he settled in Juniata, Neb., and after residing for a few months on a farm of eighty acres south of the town, he removed to Juniata, and engaged in clerking in the store of D. H. Freeman, remaining in his employ

two years, renting out his farm. In 1886 he moved to Keith County, Neb., where he located a home-stead, and after proving up on it and making it his home for about a year, sold out. He was one of the early settlers of the county, and was thirty miles from any store or postoffice, and the township in which he settled was only occupied by three or four families. Upon his removal from there one year later every quarter section was occupied. The day after settling on his claim he started for Ogallala, thirty-five miles distant, and purchased \$7 worth of lumber, with which to build his dugout, sleeping at night on the road, but was greatly annoyed by wolves that kept prowling around his wagon. The next night an old neighbor from Michigan, Conrad Piester, settled on the claim across the road from his, and during the week seven more families arrived. Upon his return to Adams County he went to his farm and made one crop, but in October, 1888, sold his land and is now engaged in general merchandising in the town. Besides his stock of goods he owns a large hotel and livery barn, which he rents. He was married in 1872 to Miss Hattie M. Burlingham, a native of Michigan, and by her has four living children: Fannie, Helen, Clarence and Mary. Murray died in 1884 at the age of five years. Mr. Aylsworth and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and socially he is a member of Lodge No. 28, K. of P., of Hastings.

Frank C. Babcock, D. D. S., was born at Galva, Ill., March 18, 1865, and is a son of Dr. Asa D. and Elizabeth (Mott) Babcock, the former of whom was born at Cortland, N. Y., in 1830, came to Illinois in 1855, and for five and twenty years was a prominent and successful physician at Galva, his death occurring at this place in 1880. His wife was born at Kalamazoo, Mich., in 1840, and is now a resident of Hastings. Frank C. Babcock is the second of three living children born to their union, and in his early youth secured a good education in the schools of Galva. In 1883 he began the study of dental surgery in the office of Dr. J. P. Huston, and in the fall of 1885, he entered the Dental Department of the University of Michigan, from which institution he graduated on June 30, 1887, and July 23, of the same year, came to Hastings, Neb.,

which place has since been his home. In the following August he opened his dental office over the First National Bank, and here he is now actively engaged in practicing his profession, having already acquired a liberal and paying patronage by the excellence of his work, his reasonable prices and his genial manner. He is a member of the State Dental Association and in his political views is a Republican.

Calvin Ball has been a resident of Adams County, Neb., since March, 1873, and has proved a valuable acquisition to the farming interests of the community, for he is a man of energy, progressive spirit and clear perception, and is reliable beyond suspicion in all his business transactions. His property consists of 160 acres of fine farming land, and it is fairly improved with buildings of all kinds, an orchard, etc. He was born in Fulton County, Ind., November 22, 1841, and from here enlisted in April, 1862, in the Union Army, becoming a member of the Twenty-sixth Indiana Infantry, and was a faithful servant of Uncle Sam until he received his discharge at the end of his term of service in April, 1865. He was a participant in many important engagements, among which may be mentioned Prairie Grove, Ark., siege and surrender of Vicksburg. He was captured near Morgan's Bend, Miss., on the Sterling plantation, and after being kept in captivity at Tyler, Tex., for about nine months, he was exchanged and immediately rejoined his army at New Orleans, and a short time after took part in the eight days' fight at Mobile in front of Spanish Fort. After being discharged he returned to Indiana, and after clerking in a store for some time, bought an interest in the establishment and sold goods at Silver Lake for about four years. From that time until 1873 he followed farming, then came to Nebraska as above stated. He is a Republican in his political views, and in November, 1882, was elected township assessor, and served two terms. He was married in Indiana, October 18, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth Creager, a native of that State, and a daughter of Adam Creager, and by her has had a family of six children: Myrtie, wife of William Warden, by whom she has one child, Cyril Thomas, married and resides at Juniata; Charles E., Clarence C., Ettie May and

Naomi W. Mr. and Mrs. Ball are members of the United Brethren Church, and he is a member of Geary Post No. 81, G. A. R., at Juniata. His parents, C. M. and Nancy (Woolf) Ball, were born in Tennessee and Indiana, respectively, and were married in the latter State, the father having been taken there by his parents when a child. After their marriage they resided in Indiana a number of years, and in 1872 Mr. Ball moved to Illinois, thence to Nebraska in 1877, the father being now a resident of Garfield County. His wife died about 1854. Mr. Ball served one year as postmaster at Oswego, Ind., in 1878, resigning on account of moving from that place.

David L. Barlass, the popular sheriff of Adams County, Neb., although born in Rock County, Wis., September 10, 1854, has been a resident of Adams County, Neb., since 1874. His parents, Andrew and Margaret (Clink) Barlass, were born in Scotland in 1822 and 1824, respectively, and in 1840 left their native land to seek a home in the New World. They settled in Rock County, Wis., on what is known as Rock Prairie, being among its first settlers, and there opened up a large farm. On this farm David L. Barlass was reared, and in addition to assisting his father in tilling the land on which they had settled, he attended the common school, near his home, and, being persevering and intelligent, he acquired a good education. This he supplemented by a two years' course at Milton College, in Milton, Wis., then in 1874, as above stated, came to Nebraska, and the first nine years of his residence here were spent in following the plow on a farm three miles south of Hastings. Being a Republican politically and a strict party man, he was elected on that ticket, in the fall of 1883, to the office of sheriff, with a majority of 555; was re-elected two years later with a majority of 800, and in 1877 was again honored with the position, his majority this time being more than 1,000. This shows beyond question his popularity as an official, and he has proven himself to be a competent, faithful and fearless officer. Socially he is a member of Hastings Lodge No. 28, of the K. of P. His marriage with Miss Ella M. Hill was celebrated September 2, 1884. She was born in Illinois, and

by Mr. Barlass is the mother of one child, Herbert L.

B. F. Barr, lumber dealer, Prosser, Neb. The business interests of this town are ably represented by Mr. Barr, who not only represents the city in that capacity, but who is also recognized as a pleasant, genial gentleman. He owes his nativity to Logan County, Ill., and was born there on September 4, 1859. His father, George Barr, is a native of the Buckeye State, and in about 1852 emigrated to Logan County, Ill., where he married Miss Maria Jackson, also a native of Ohio, but who had emigrated with her parents some time previous to Illinois. Of the three children born to their marriage, B. F. Barr is the eldest. He passed his boyhood days in Illinois, received a good education, and in January, 1880, he came to Nebraska, where for two years he was engaged in farming near Hastings. He subsequently went to Oregon, spent some time traveling through that and other Western States, but finally returned to Bloomington, Neb., where he accepted a position with the White Lake Lumber Company. From there he went to Hastings, Neb., engaged with the Paine Lumber Company, and in April, 1885, he accepted the position of general manager and superintendent of their lumber and coal yards at Hansen, Neb. On July 1, 1889, he opened his present business at Prosser, Neb., and is the pioneer lumber dealer of the place. On November 26, 1883, he married Miss Eva C. Richards, a native of Wisconsin, who, when a child, went to Dakota with her parents, and later to Nebraska. To this union have been born two children: Mabel C. and Grant. Mr. Barr is a member of the Masonic fraternity, a member of the I. O. O. F., and also of the order of Heptasops or Seven Wise Men. Mrs. Barr is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and both are much esteemed citizens.

Herman Bentert, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Of that sturdy and independent class, the farmers of Nebraska, none are possessed of more genuine merit and a stronger character than he whose name stands at the head of this sketch. Mr. Bentert was born in Sheboygan County, Wis., in 1859, and was the youngest of two children born to the union of Frederick and Dora T. (Kibbos) Bentert, natives

of Germany. The father was married in his native country in 1854, emigrated to America in 1857, and at once began working on a farm in Sheboygan County, Wis., receiving fifty cents a day for his labor. Finally he purchased eighty acres of land, improved it, and in 1874 came to Nebraska, where he purchased 160 acres. Since then he has added to his original tract, and is now the owner of 400 acres, and is also the owner of considerable property in Hastings. He is still living and makes his home with his son, Herman. The mother died in Wisconsin in 1860. Herman Bentert's early life was divided between assisting on the farm and in receiving an education in the common schools of Wisconsin and Nebraska. He came to Nebraska at the age of fifteen years, and being the only one of the children now living, is directly connected with his father in business. They came to Nebraska with only \$2,500 and now, by their industry and good business ability, own property to the value of \$25,000. They are engaged extensively in stock raising, feeding from fifty to one hundred cattle and hogs yearly. Herman Bentert takes an active interest in politics and his vote is cast with the Democratic party. As treasurer of Highland Township (having been elected to that position in 1888, and re-elected in 1889) he is a man who has the perfect confidence and respect of the people. He is progressive in his views and has borne a prominent part in promoting the various interests of the county. He is the tallest man in Adams County, if not in the State, measuring six feet, eight inches in height, and is one of the best known men in the county. He aids all public enterprises of a laudable nature, and is Lutheran in his religious belief.

F. M. Betteys, county superintendent of schools, Hastings, Neb. To undertake to introduce to our readers the subject of this sketch would be something entirely unnecessary, for his extensive acquaintance and long connection with the affairs of the vicinity, have rendered him well and popularly known. Born in La Porte County, Ind., April 29, 1844, he was the son of Alonzo and Julia (Lykins) Betteys. The father was born in New York in 1809, and is now a resident of Boone, Neb. The mother was born in Kentucky, and died in 1871. In July,

1863, F. M. enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Missouri Cavalry. He served until June, 1865, after which he returned to Iowa and taught school in that State until 1884. He then came to Hastings, Neb., and spent five years in the county clerk's office as deputy county clerk. In politics he is a Republican, and in 1889 he was elected superintendent of the public schools of the county. Mr. Betteys selected for his companion in life Miss Virginia J. Wade, a native of Will County, Ill., born in 1850, and was united in marriage to her in 1874. The fruits of this union have been four children: Eugene, Mamie, Edward and Winnie.

Harm J. Bierman, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. In his farming operations in this county Mr. Bierman has pursued the sturdy, industrious and enterprising principles which characterize the customs of those of foreign birth now residing in Adams County, Neb. He was born in Germany in 1840, and was the fourth child in order of birth. His father, John Bierman, was born in Germany in 1804; was a farmer by occupation, and remained in his native country until 1863, when he crossed the ocean to the United States, and settled in Woodford County, Ill. Here he followed farming, and was very successful in this occupation. He died in Illinois in 1875. His wife, Miss Johanna Severs, who bore him six children, died in 1867. Both were members of the Lutheran Church, and he in his political views was Independent, voting for principle not for party. Their children were named as follows: Henrietta, Francis, Harm, deceased, and Harna who is living and is the subject of this sketch; Peterke (living), and John (deceased). In early life Harm J. Bierman assisted his father on the farm, and at the age of sixteen years went on the sea, which he followed for some time. He then went to Illinois, settled in Woodford, near Minonk, and there followed agricultural pursuits for twelve years. He was married in 1867 to Miss Katie Flyr, who was born in Germany and who moved to Illinois with her father, William Flyr, when but two years of age. The father died in Illinois in 1883. To the marriage of Mr. Bierman were born nine children, eight now living: Albert (deceased), Henry, Christina, now Mrs. Knapp, and resides in

Hastings, Johanna, John, Harry, Albert, Herman and Theodore. Mrs. Bierman moved to Adams County, Neb., in 1876, settled on the prairie where he now lives; bought 320 acres of good land, and this he has improved very much. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are much respected citizens. He was road supervisor of the township for one year, and he takes a deep interest in school and church matters. He is a wide-awake, industrious farmer, as may be seen by the improvements made on his farm. He is a Republican in politics.

Luther A. Boley, Kenesaw, Neb. Since his residence in the county, Mr. Boley has been very prominently identified with the material affairs of this community, indeed far more so than the average of men. He was born in Huron County, Ohio, September 29, 1839, and received his education in the high schools, supplementing the same by attending the seminary at Auburn. In 1859 he began teaching in the public schools of Indiana, and followed that occupation for four years. He then worked for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company as section foreman, and eight years later turned his attention to farming, which he followed until 1874, when he came to Nebraska, locating on a homestead near Kenesaw. There he remained eleven years and then accepted a position as manager of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company's coal business at Kenesaw, which he still continues to hold. In 1876 he was elected assessor for Kenesaw precinct and served six years; was a member of the town council for two years, and is a member of Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M. He selected as his companion in life, Miss Kate J. Hodges, a native of Huron County, Ohio, and their marriage was solemnized in 1862. To this union have been born three children: Edith Camilla, now Mrs. Harry Mitchell, resides at Cheyenne; Walter F., and Madge A. Mrs. Boley is a church worker and takes a deep interest in all charitable enterprises. Mr. Boley's parents, Martin and Sarah Ann (Hodges) Boley, were natives of New York, and came to Ohio about 1835. When the subject of this sketch was an infant only a few weeks old they moved to Kent County, Ontario, where they remained four years,

and then returned to Ohio, residing on the original farm for four years. In 1847 they moved to Indiana, locating in De Kalb County, where they were pioneer settlers, and where they both passed their last days, the father dying in the fall of 1859, and the mother in 1874. The former was one of the original Abolitionists.

Harry Brooks Borley, drayage and transfer, Hastings, Neb. This successful and enterprising business man was born in the County of Suffolk, England, on June 3, 1854, and is the son of John and Sarah (Brooks) Borley, natives also of England. The union of the parents was blessed by the birth of six children, three now living, and Harry Brooks Borley is the fourth child in order of birth. The latter attained his growth in London, England, attended the schools of the same, and for two years prior to coming to the United States, was engaged in the book and newspaper business for W. H. Smith & Sons in London. He emigrated to the United States in 1873, located in Hastings, and in 1874 bought eighty acres of railroad land, the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 35, Township 7, Range 10, which he still owns and has greatly improved. For six years he was a clerk in what was then the St. Joe & Denver Railroad, but what is now the St. Joe & Grand Island. In 1880 Mr. Borley began the drayage and transfer business in this city, and this he still continues. He was married on December 31, 1884, to Miss Henrietta Wallace, daughter of Martin F. and Nellie Wallace. Mrs. Borley was born in Indiana in 1865, and came to Adams County, Neb., with her parents in 1873. To this marriage have been born two children, Harry W., whose birth occurred on February 27, 1886, and William E., who was born on December 23, 1887. In politics Mr. Borley is a Republican, and in 1879 he joined the Masonic Fraternity, Hastings Lodge No. 50. He is one of the early settlers of Adams County, and is practically a self-made man, having accumulated the most of his property by his own efforts.

Isaac Boyd is a wealthy tiller of the soil of Adams County, Neb., and comes of an excellent stock, his ancestors having been prominent and influential citizens of the different localities in which

they resided. Born in Seneca County, Ohio, on August 28, 1843, he learned the intricacies of farm labor from his father, and this, in connection with stock raising, has continued to be his calling ever since. John Boyd, his father, was born in Pennsylvania, but was reared in the Buckeye State, and was married in Seneca County to Elizabeth Eckley, a native of Ohio, and after farming there for a period of twenty years, and becoming well known throughout that region as an honorable, upright and worthy man, he passed to his long home in August, 1856, deeply mourned not only by his immediate and sorrowing household, but by all who knew him. Soon after his death his wife and family moved to Stark County, Ill., and here the mother made her home for some twenty years, but is now residing with her son Isaac. The latter grew to mature years in the State of Illinois, but in 1871 went to Guthrie County, Iowa, where he was engaged in following the plow for about two years, and taught school one year, having received a good education in his youth, being an attendant of Knox College, Ill., for about two years, and a college at Hayesville, Ohio, one year. He was married in Guthrie County, Iowa, December 25, 1872, to Mary E. Mizen, a native of Wisconsin, reared and educated in Dean County, and a daughter of George Mizen; and shortly after their marriage they removed to Nebraska, and in March, 1876, arrived in Adams County, and settled on the farm where they now reside. He now has land to the amount of 240 acres, all in a good state of cultivation, on which are good buildings, orchards, etc. He is a Republican in politics, and has served two successive terms as assessor, and has been a delegate to county and State conventions. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are the parents of five children: Laura, Lena, Maud, Frank and Effie. Two children died in infancy.

Robert M. Boyd is accounted a prosperous farmer and stockman of Adams County, and like the majority of native Ohioans is progressive in his views and of an energetic temperament. His birth occurred in Seneca County, March 1, 1844, and he is a son of John and Elizabeth (Eckley) Boyd, also natives of that State, and prosperous agriculturists. The

father's death took place in his native State, August 13, 1857, and soon after his family removed to Stark County, Ill., where they made their home for many years. R. M. Boyd grew to manhood in this county, but after attaining his majority he began farming for himself, and in 1874 came to Nebraska, having come here in 1872 and homesteaded some land. Nearly all the county was prairie land at that time and there were very few houses, and these were nearly all sod houses, and the county seat was then at Juniata. Mr. Boyd built a good frame house, which at that time was among the best in the township, and set energetically to work to put his land in tillable condition, which he succeeded in doing in a short time. He has since purchased 160 acres of land adjoining his home place, and his farm now comprises a tract of 320 acres, all in a good state of cultivation, ninety-five being devoted to corn, twenty acres to millet and sugar cane, and eighty acres to small grain. He has been feeding cattle and hogs for the market for the past ten years, and ships on an average of one car load each year. He has two thoroughbred Hereford animals for breeding purposes, also some good graded stock. He has a peach orchard of about 300 trees, and an apple orchard of about three acres, the yield from the latter being some 300 bushels in 1889. In May, 1862, he enlisted in the Union Army, Sixty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and served four months, at the expiration of which time he was doing guard duty in Chicago. He is a Republican and has served as a delegate to county and State conventions, but has never had any desire for office. His union to Miss Eliza E. Addis was celebrated in Stark County, Ill., February 3, 1874, a daughter of Daniel Addis, a native of New Jersey. She was born in Fulton County, Ill., but from the time she was twelve years of age until she reached womanhood was a resident of Stark County. Her union with Mr. Boyd resulted in the birth of four children: Frances V., Frederick, and a son and daughter who died in infancy.

Nathan L. Brass is a prominent citizen of Juniata, Neb., and throughout life has followed the teaching of the Golden Rule to the best of his ability, and as a result has gained the respect and esteem of all who know him. A native of Michigan,

born in 1843, he is the fifth child born to Samuel Brass, who removed from Rochester, N. Y., to Clinton County, Mich., of which he was one of the pioneer settlers. After the death of his first wife the father married Margaret Doty at Ann Arbor, and by her became the father of Nathan L. He was a farmer and boot and shoe maker by occupation, and died in March, 1864, his wife's death occurring in 1858. After being engaged in farm labor and attending the district schools until he was eighteen years of age, he enlisted in Company D, First Michigan Cavalry, and was sent to Maryland, but his company was soon detached from the regiment and assigned to scouting duty after Mosby's bushwhackers, serving in this capacity until nearly the close of the war, when he was injured and transferred to the Eighth United States Regiment, and with his company was detailed to guard prisoners that were being tried for the murder of President Lincoln. Before his duties were ended he became thoroughly familiar with Mrs. Mary Surratt, Dr. S. A. Mudd, L. P. Payne, D. E. Herrold and others, and so vigilant was he in the discharge of his duties that for thirty days he had not time to remove his clothes. His regiment led the funeral procession through the city to the train. He received his discharge November 16, 1865, and was mustered out at Washington, D. C. Upon his return to Michigan he resumed farming, but a few months later was taken ill, the result of an injury received in the service, and for two years was incapacitated for work. After recovering he engaged in butchering, but in 1869 gave up this work and removed to Wisconsin, where he resumed agricultural pursuits, but upon his health again failing him at the end of about a year, he came to Nebraska and settled near Juniata, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land, immediately erecting a dwelling thereon with lumber that he hauled from Sutton. His house was the fifth frame house erected in the township, and Juniata then consisted of only four houses. Many interesting anecdotes are told by Mr. Brass concerning some of his early hunting experiences, but want of space forbids their repetition. He resided on his farm near the town until 1880, making many very valuable improvements, then moved to Juniata and

settled in a new residence which he had just completed, being engaged for two years in selling agricultural machinery. The three following years were spent on his farm, and in 1886 he bought a one-half block in town, built him a residence, set out trees, shrubs, etc., and has made him a very pleasant home. He was a consistent Republican in politics until 1884, when he became a Prohibitionist, and in 1886 began lecturing for that party, his labors in this direction being recognized in nearly every part of the State, and in the campaign of 1888 did excellent work for his party. He was married in 1866 to Miss Rachel R. Smith, a native of Michigan, and a daughter of Rev. J. Smith, a minister of the United Brethren Church and an old missionary to the Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Brass attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are the parents of four children: Bertha, wife of Charles Allen; Franklin A., Fred Adna A., and Willie, who died at the age of two and one-half years.

John Brechner, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. The agricultural affairs of Adams County, and particularly of this township, are ably represented among others by the subject of this sketch, who has been a resident of the same since 1880. He was originally from Stark County, Ohio, where he was born in 1845, and is the son of John and Delilah (Lindersmith) Brechner. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1813, and although he learned the blacksmith trade when a boy, in later years he followed the occupation of a farmer and blacksmith. He died in 1860, but the mother is still living in Indiana. Their family consisted of fifteen children: Aaron, Joseph, Anna, Wilson, Peter, John, Samuel, Lucinda, Susan, Matilda, Saloma, Jacob F., Mary E., George and Genevera. They reared all these children but Mary E. and Jacob F. The mother is a member of the United Brethren Church, of which the father was also a member. John Brechner emigrated from Ohio to Indiana when a boy, and in the latter State he received the principal part of his education. In 1866 he went to the lumber regions of Michigan, and there remained for seven years, when he returned to Indiana and engaged in farming. He was married in 1872 to Miss Harriet Barnes,

daughter of Amos Barnes, and eight children have been the result of this union: J. Harvey, George W., Lydia B., Henry, Delilah, Stella, Daisy and Sady. Mr. Brechner followed farming in Indiana for six years, and in 1880 he emigrated to Nebraska, and settled on his present property. He bought a partly improved farm of eighty acres, and also eighty acres of railroad land, which he has since improved very much. In politics Mr. Brechner votes for principle and not for party. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and has been a member of the school board three terms. He and wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and are much esteemed citizens. He has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, and has one of the best farms in the township, all the result of his own exertions. His brothers, Aaron, Wilson, Joseph and Peter, all enlisted in the Forty-seventh Indiana Infantry, and were in a great many hard fought battles. Samuel was in the One Hundred and Eighteenth Indiana Infantry, Aaron and Peter lost their health while in the war, and the former died from the effects of his service in 1867. Mr. Brechner is the only one of his father's family who came to this State.

Rev. Jacob Brinkema is the present pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb., and is a native German, having been born in Hanover, March 2, 1836, being the youngest of seven children born to the marriage of Justus and Anna (Green) Brinkema. The father was an enterprising and successful agriculturist and he and his wife were members of the Reformed Church, and died in 1844 and 1843, respectively. Their children are George, Margaret, Agnes, Ernest, who died in 1853; Justus, and two who died in infancy. Rev. Jacob Brinkema attended the schools of Hanover in his youth, but in 1864 left his native land to seek a home in the New World, and settled first in Ogle County, Ill. In 1866 he entered a school at Dubuque, Iowa, and in this institution began his theological studies, but in April, 1871, left school, and in the fall of that year was ordained a minister of the Gospel and put in charge of a church in Grundy County, Iowa. After spending six months in Ackley, he preached in Hamilton County for some time, and while in that State was instrumental in organizing

a number of churches. On the 3d day of July, 1883, he organized a church in Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb., and was put in charge of the same in May, 1884, and since his residence here has been instrumental in bringing many people into the church. January 11, 1872, he was married to Miss Bernhardine Gruis, a daughter of Ralph and Bernhardine Gruis, all natives of Hanover, Germany; and by his wife has had a family of ten children: Kuno, who died January, 1873; Juslon, who died January 16, 1881; Anna, was born in 1875; Kuno, died in 1887; Barnhard, who was born in 1879; Justus, born in 1881 and died March 15, 1885; Kuno, born in 1882 and died in 1885; Rubalt, who died in 1884; Margaret, who was born in 1886, and Justus born in 1888. Mr. Brinkema is deeply interested in the welfare of the county, and is an earnest, faithful and consistent worker for the cause of Christianity.

Bedford Brown, attorney, Hastings, Neb. Of the many prominent names that go to make up the strength of the Nebraska bar is that of Mr. Bedford Brown, who though young in years, is looked upon with considerable pride by the people of Adams County, not only for his brilliant efforts in his profession, but for his unquestioned integrity and honesty of purpose. He was born near where stands the present village of Divernon, Ill., October 7, 1861, and first attended the district schools of Sangamon County, Ill. Subsequently he attended Whipple Academy at Jacksonville, Ill., and also at Illinois College, of the same place, from which he graduated in 1884 with the degree of A. B. He then taught school for one year, and in the fall of 1885 entered the Columbian University Law School at Washington, D. C., from which he graduated in the spring of 1877. After this he was in the office of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth, at Hastings, for three months, and in April, 1888, he formed a co-partnership for the practice of law with W. L. Marshall, which continued until January 25, 1890, when the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Brown is a close student, is one of the popular young men of Hastings, and is a brilliant young lawyer. He is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is the sixth of nine children born to Reuben S. and Sallie (Wright) Brown, natives of Kentucky and Illi-

nois, respectively. The parents and most of the family reside in Sangamon County, Ill. The father is an agriculturist by occupation near Divernon, Ill., and occupies a prominent position among the many successful business men of that community.

William R. Burton, county judge-elect of Adams County, Neb., is a man of recognized worth, and to his natural abilities have been added the wisdom and experience of a useful and well spent life. He was born on the frontier in Southwestern Missouri, May 31, 1844, his father, Garrett Burton, who was a native Kentuckian, born in 1820, being of a wandering disposition, and with his family, was in Missouri at the time of William's birth. The mother was a most estimable lady, and was a faithful wife and mother. Her maiden name was Catherine Wagh, and she was born in Tennessee in 1819, and is now a resident of Harrison County, Ind. Her husband's death occurred in 1862, and upon her devolved the rearing, support and education of her children, five in number, and how well this duty was fulfilled is evident in looking upon her children, who have grown to honored manhood and womanhood. William R. Burton is the eldest of the family, and in early boyhood he returned to Indiana with his mother, and here his early scholastic advantages were enjoyed, and besides obtaining all the knowledge to be acquired in the common schools, he was so fortunate as to obtain a four years' schooling in the Northwestern Christian University at Indianapolis. In July, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Twenty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, to do battle for the Union, and was a faithful servant for "Uncle Sam" until the last of May, 1865, and during his term of service was in many important engagements. He was wounded at the siege of Vicksburg, captured on the field of battle and was cast in prison, but was soon after paroled and sent to a hospital at St. Louis. Upon his recovery he entered the quarter-master's department of the Army of the Cumberland under Gen. Thomas, and in that capacity served until the close of the war. In 1872 he began the study of law, and two years later was admitted to the bar in Union County, Ind., where he continued the practice of his profession until 1881, at which time he accepted a position on the editorial staff of the Indianapolis Jour-

nal, in which capacity he remained two years. He then came to Adams County, Neb., and for some time was engaged in wielding the ferule, but in 1887 was chosen judge of the city court of Hastings, receiving all the votes cast with the exception of one. In 1889 he was elected to his present position, with a plurality of 700, and his devotion to the welfare of this county, and his ability and fidelity in his present position, have been recognized by all. Politically he has always been a Republican, and socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R. January 1, 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Anna J. Langtree, of Madison, Ind., by whom he has one son: Harry G.

Rev. O. A. Buzzell has been long and worthily identified with the farming and religious interests of Adams County, Neb., and no history of this immediate vicinity would be complete which failed to make proper mention of Mr. Buzzell. Originally from Grafton County, N. H., he was born there in 1835, and was the third of a family of eight children born to his parents, D. R. and Anna D. (Pease) Buzzell. The father is yet living, and has resided on one farm in New Hampshire since he was seven years of age, the farm being originally purchased by his father, the grandfather of our subject. Since he attained his majority he has been an active spirit in the affairs of Grafton County, which he has represented twice in the State Legislature. For over fifty years he served as clerk of the Free Will Baptist Church of his town, and politically was a Jacksonian Democrat; and still adheres to the principles of that party. For a number of years he was extensively engaged in the lumber business, and operated two saw mills on a stream which ran through his farm, but a freshet swept both these structures away, which loss financially embarrassed Mr. Buzzell for many years. He eventually recovered his losses, and paid his debts to the last dollar. He was born in 1806, and accordingly is now at the advanced age of eighty-three years, and is yet quite hale and hearty, bearing his burden of many years with ease, his memory especially showing few indications of the ravages of time. His wife died in 1879 at the age of sixty-nine years. The parental grandfather was a sturdy pioneer

farmer of New Hampshire, and died in 1872 at the ripe old age of ninety-eight and one-half years, having enlisted, but not taking an active part, in the War of 1812. The mother's parents were also among the sturdy pioneers of New Hampshire, and lived to a goodly age. O. A. Buzzell's days from his earliest recollections were occupied with the monotonous duties of farm life, and in acquiring an education in the district schools near his home, and when his twentieth year was reached he went to Lowell, Mass., and began clerking in a book store; but in December, 1857, bought out the proprietor and started in business for himself, conducting the establishment until the outbreak of the late Civil War. In July, 1862, he joined Company F of the Thirty-third Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, and was a member of the Army of the Potomac for one year. After becoming a member of the Eleventh Army Corps, he participated in the battle of Chancellorsville, and in the fall of 1863 was transferred to the Army of the West, and marched from Bridgeport to Chattanooga; and after reaching the latter place took part in the battles of Lookout Valley, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He also participated in nearly all the engagements of the Atlanta campaign in the Twentieth Corps (Joe Hooker's), and while in the city of Atlanta his regiment was detailed for provost duty, and upon the evacuation of the army their regiment set fire to the city. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and on March 7, 1865, received injuries which confined him to the hospital for some time. He was discharged May 24, 1865, and returned home with the rank of corporal, to which he had been promoted while on the Atlanta campaign. Before reaching his home, however, he was stricken down by fever, and for a time his life was despaired of; but by fall he had recovered sufficiently to engage in business, which he did in the city of Lowell, Mass., continuing until May, 1867, at which date he sold out and engaged in the manufacture of shoe findings in Boston, this occupation receiving his attention for some three years. During this time he had purchased the exclusive control of Dr. James Craigie's Indian family medicines, and three years were spent in the preparation of these remedies for

the public. In 1872 he removed to Nebraska, considering that the new country beyond the Mississippi offered better advantages to a man than the East; and time has proved the wisdom of his decision in locating here. He settled on a homestead in Buffalo County, near where Kearney now is; but after living on it five years and making many improvements, he sold out and moved to a farm of eighty acres near the town of Juniata, which he has succeeded in putting in a fine state of cultivation. He has a pleasant and commodious residence, and his farm is well supplied with fruit and is abundantly stocked, this branch of business receiving a considerable portion of Mr. Buzzell's attention. Mr. Buzzell joined the Free Will Baptist Church when about nineteen years of age, and the following year changed his membership to the First (regular) Baptist Church of Lowell, Mass.; and while in Lowell, in 1866, he and two gentlemen friends started the Y. M. C. A., of which he was an active member during his stay in the city. On May 27, 1873, he was licensed to preach by the Baptist Church of Gibbon, Neb., and served that church as pastor for one year, during which time also he organized a church at Huntsville. In 1874 he became pastor of the First Church of Kearney, and later organized a church at Overton, and became pastor of the Plum Creek Church, ten miles west. He was ordained March 9, 1877, and in the fall of the same year he received a call from Juniata, which he accepted, and moved to this town; and under his guidance the membership soon became doubled, which necessitated the erection of a new church, which still stands as a tribute to his zeal and fidelity. In 1881 he organized a church at Minden; in 1884, the Mount Pleasant Church, south of Juniata, and has also assisted in organizing a number of other churches. He was pastor of a church in Hamilton County two years; was pastor of the Union and Catherton Churches in Webster County, and the Pleasant Home Church in Polk County. He was one of the organizers of the Grand Island and South Central Baptist Associations, and was one of the Board of Directors for the State Convention, and Chairman of the State Committee of Foreign Missions, and has served as Moderator of each of

these associations. He has also served as missionary in employ of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, American Bible Society and American Sunday School Union, establishing work on the frontier. He was married in 1858 to Miss Addie M. Merrill, a native of New Hampshire, and a daughter of Jeremiah and Mary A. (George) Merrill, the father dying when Mrs. Buzzell was a child, and the mother in 1877. The former was a farmer by occupation, and an enterprising citizen. To Mr. and Mrs. Buzzell seven children have been born. Edgar A., the eldest, is a graduate of the University of Chicago, having worked his way through this institution, and received at the end of the course \$50 for the prize essay. In the fall of 1888 he was admitted to the bar of Chicago, and is now practicing law in that city. He was born October 10, 1860, and was married April 4, 1887, to Miss J. Ietta Gibson, by whom he has a son born January 8, 1888, named Edgar Gibson. Minnie A., the second child, was born December 13, 1862, and was the first graduate of the Gibbon Baptist Seminary. She later spent one year in the University of Chicago in the study of special branches preparatory to engaging in foreign missionary work, and in the fall of 1884 sailed from San Francisco to China. Her support abroad was guaranteed by the ladies of Oregon, and she reached her destination, Swatow, China, December 1, 1884; but after three years of successful labor among the heathen women, owing to ill health, returned to America in 1887, and is at present in Oregon for the benefit of her health, and is at the same time engaged in organizing women's missionary societies in Oregon and Washington. She was the youngest single lady sent on this work, and the superintendent of the mission in China said that she made rapid progress in learning the language. Annie, Mr. Buzzell's second daughter, was born August 3, 1866, and received her education in Gibbon Seminary. She began teaching in the public schools of Adams County at the age of fifteen years, and is now in her third year in charge of the primary department of the Juniata public school. Charles D., born November 8, 1870, is at home; Jennie M. was born November 22, 1873, and is a pupil in the high school at Juniata. Lewis J. was born September

12, 1876, and died June 19, 1878, and Francis H. was born November 9, 1882, and died September 6, 1884. Mr. Buzzell cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and has ever since voted in general elections for the Republican candidate. He is a member of Geary Post No. 81, G. A. R., and has been honored with the office of Chaplain of that body.

W. P. W. Campbell, farmer and stockman, Trumbull, Neb. This representative citizen is one of the pioneers of West Blue Township, Adams County, Neb., whither he had emigrated in February, 1874, and where he has since homesteaded 160 acres on Section 12. He was born in Kanawha County, Va., on November 24, 1826, and is the sixth in a family of eight children born to the union of Robert and Mary (Griffith) Campbell, natives of the Old Dominion, Botetourt County. The father was a cabinet maker by trade, and was the inventor of the old fashioned auger pump. He moved to Sangamon County, Ill., in 1830, settled on a farm, entered land, and made that county his home until his death, which occurred in December, 1844. His wife survived him until November, 1861. Of their children Charles resides in Labette County, Kan., John, in St. Louis, who is a master machinist, and W. P. W. The latter (the subject of this sketch) remained on the farm until twenty-one years of age and then entered a machine shop, where he became a master mechanic. He set up machinery all over Illinois, and later ran stationary engines in different parts of the country. After this he worked in the shop and on the road for ten years. On May 26, 1861, he enlisted in the Fourteenth Infantry, Company I, for three years, at Waverly, Ill., and was engaged in the battles of Shiloh, Hatchie and siege of Vicksburg. While at Natchez he was transferred to the invalid corps on account of disability, being sent to guard the prison at Rock Island until the expiration of term of service. He was discharged at the latter place on May 27, 1864, after which he went to Springfield, Ill. Mr. Campbell was married previous to the war, in 1852, to Miss Julia M. Slater, a native of Sangamon County, Ill., and the daughter of Jay and Lucretia (Carman) Slater, natives of New York and Virginia, respectively.

Mr. Slater settled in Illinois at an early day, and there followed agricultural pursuits. Both he and wife are deceased. Mrs. Campbell's brother, James H. Slater, was United States Senator from Oregon, and was also in the XL1st Congress. He is now a resident of Oregon and a prominent criminal lawyer of La Grande. Mr. Campbell, after marriage, settled in Springfield, Ill., whither he had returned after the war, and there resided until 1874, when he emigrated to Adams County, Neb. He entered 160 acres of land, and now has all that in a good state of cultivation. He is also interested in the raising of stock. Mr. Campbell is not active in politics, but votes with the Republican party. He has been a member of the school board, and was one of the first in the district. He is a member of William H. Harrison Post No. 183, G. A. R., at Trumbull, and is Senior Vice Commander. Mrs. Campbell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To their union have been born three children: Mary, now Mrs. L. F. Gould, of Orange Vale, Cal.; Olive, now Mrs. Ramsey, of Nebraska, and Charles R., who is married and resides at home. Mr. Campbell has seen the complete growth of the county, and in its early settlement has been obliged to go to the Platte River to get willows for fuel. He takes an interest in and aids all causes for the good of the county.

L. M. Campbell, secretary of the Nebraska Real Estate and Live Stock Association, and one of the prominent business men of Hastings, was born at DeWitt, Iowa, on September 12, 1859, and is the son of W. R. and Rebecca (McBride) Campbell, natives of Ohio, and now residents of South Dakota, the former being about sixty-two years of age and the latter sixty-five years of age. Mr. Campbell is the second of five children. He remained at DeWitt, Iowa, until 1871, and then for five years attended school at Washington, Iowa, and a business college at Davenport, Iowa. In 1876 he went to Des Moines, and during the winter season for five years was book keeper for the Des Moines Pork Packing Company. In 1881 he came to Hastings, and until September, 1888, was bookkeeper for the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company, and since then has been actively engaged in the real estate business,

in connection with one of the most extensive real estate firms in the West. The same was organized August 1, 1883. Mr. Campbell takes an active part in the advancement of Hastings, and readily gives his support to all laudable enterprises. He was married in 1882 to Miss Almira U. Dillanback, a native of Kalamazoo, Mich., who died in Hastings, Neb., in 1886, leaving two children, Sidney E., born in 1883, and Almira U., born in 1886. Mr. Campbell was married the second time on January 18, 1888, to Miss Mary E. Ritter, a native of Constantine, Mich. Mr. Campbell is an ardent Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield, at Creston, Iowa. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, is also a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. O. U. W., and is one of the popular men of Hastings.

Lucius Junia Capps is the senior member of the law firm of Capps, McCreary & Stevens, of Hastings, Neb. As a copartnership whose honor is above criticism, whose ability places it in the front rank of the Western bar, whose name is well known throughout Adams and surrounding counties, this firm occupies an enviable place. The gentlemen composing the firm are admirably adapted to their calling, and Mr. Capps is especially well known. He was born in Indiana, October 10, 1852, and is a son of J. W. and Julia (Boone) Capps, who were born in North Carolina and Indiana, in 1824 and 1834, respectively. They removed to Boone County, Iowa, at an early day, and here the mother's death occurred in 1873, her husband being still alive and a prominent resident of that county. Lucius J. Capps is the eldest of their seven children, and when a little less than one year old his parents located in Iowa, and until nineteen years of age he was an attendant of the public schools of Boone County. He then began studying law in the office of W. R. Lawrence, but finished his legal studies in the office of Judge Mitchell, and on May 15, 1873, he was admitted to the Boone County bar. The same year he went to Utah Territory, but a few months later returned home, and in September, 1874, entered the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and on March 24, graduated with the class of 1875. From that time until December,

1878, he practiced his profession in Paris, Ill., being admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of that State June 4, 1875, after which he came to Hastings, Neb., and in December, 1878, became a member of the Adams County bar. He also holds a certificate to practice in the federal courts. December 26, 1876, he was married to Miss Mary J. Vance, who was born in Wisconsin in 1857, and died May 16, 1888, leaving two children, Louis Junia and Harry F. V. Mr. Capps has always been a staunch Republican.

Levi Carkins, farmer and stock breeder, Hastings, Neb. Among the influential and respected citizens of Adams County, there is no one more justly entitled to representation in this work than Levi Carkins. He came to the county in the spring of 1873, entered 160 acres of land, erected a frame house and commenced improving his farm. He was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., in October, 1841, and was the fifth of ten children born to the union of Levi and Lefy (Richmond) Carkins, both natives of the southern part of New York State. The parents were married in New York in 1832, moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1845, and here the father cultivated the soil until 1856. They then moved to Chickasaw County, Iowa, where the father continued his former pursuit until his death the following year. The mother was born in Onondaga County, in 1813, and survived her husband until 1884, having been a resident of Iowa for twenty-eight years. Their family consisted of the following children: Mary, died in Iowa; Sarah, now Mrs. Graves, of New Hampton, Iowa; Amariah, died in McHenry County, Ill., many years ago; Sylvester, died November 14, 1881; Levi (our subject), Richmond, enlisted in the Union Army, Company C, Thirty-eighth Iowa Infantry, at Chickasaw, Iowa, in 1862, and was assigned to the Western Department; he died at New Orleans in 1863 of chronic diarrhoea, contracted in service; Phoebe Jane, now Mrs. Gregory, of Charles City, Iowa; George Washington, married and resides in Iowa; Ruthfield, married and resides in Hayes County, Neb., and Cyrus who resides in Hayes County, Neb. Levi Carkins' time in early life was divided between assisting on the farm and receiving an ordinary education in the schools of Chickasaw,

Iowa. He enlisted in Company B, Seventh Iowa Infantry, at Hampton, Iowa, July 8, 1861, for three years, and was sent to the Western Department. He was in the battle of Belmont and there received a gunshot wound. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, also several other prominent battles, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He was honorably discharged at Chattanooga, Tenn., in August, 1864. Returning home to Iowa he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and this has continued ever since. His marriage occurred in Chickasaw County, Iowa, in 1884, to Miss C. D. Carpenter, a native of Ohio, who bore him two children: Kittie M., now Mrs. Minkler, of Ohio, and H. E., who now resides in Nebraska. Mr. Carkins took for his second wife Mrs. Angeline (Keene) Hudson, the daughter of Alvin and Sarah (Cheever) Keene, natives of New York, and was married to her in Nebraska, in 1877. Her parents moved to Monroe County, Mich., in 1837, settled on a farm, and there the mother died in 1852. The father died January 30, 1879. Mrs. Carkins was married in Monroe County, Mich., in 1865, to Fernando Hudson, a native of Monroe County, Mich., and came to Adams County, Neb., in 1872, settling in Denver Township, where they entered eighty acres of land within the present limits of Hastings, which at that time consisted of a few sod cabins. Mr. Hudson's death occurred in 1874. Mr. Carkins has continued to improve his farm, and now has 320 acres under cultivation. He feeds considerable stock, has a good grade, and has made many and vast improvements. He is the township committee-man of Highland Township, takes an active part in politics and votes with the Republican party. He was school treasurer in 1876, and has filled many other local positions. He assisted in the organization of Highland Township. Mrs. Carkins is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is active in its various workings. Mr. Carkins has seen a vast change in the county since his residence here, and being one of the pioneers has taken a deep interest in everything that pertains to the good of the same. When he first settled here he was offered a lot in Hastings for a watch, but refused the offer. He is a self-made

man and has accumulated all his property since coming here.

Thomas Carroll, farmer and stockman, Ayr, Neb. If, as is self-evident, this work would be incomplete without sketches of the more public spirited of the successful agriculturists and stockmen, and substantial, well-to-do citizens of Adams County, the biography of the subject of this sketch justly finds a conspicuous place in the present volume. Mr. Carroll was originally from New York City, where his birth occurred in 1843, but his education was received in Illinois. His parents, John and Bridget (Mooney) Carroll, were both natives of County Mayo, Province of Connaught, Ireland. The father was born in 1803, and in 1838 emigrated to New York City, where he remained until 1845. From there he removed to Vermont, thence in 1846 to Illinois, and from there, in 1878, to Union County, Iowa, where he lived a retired life. He died in that State in 1884, and the mother in Illinois in 1864. The father was a Democrat in politics, and was a member of the Catholic Church. Thomas Carroll spent his school-boy days in Illinois, and at the breaking out of the war he enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Illinois Infantry, under Col. John McCarthy, and was in many of the principal engagements. He was in the battles of Donelson and Shiloh, where he was wounded by a minie-ball (which he carries to this day), and being unable to do further service on account of this, was discharged in 1862. He has since been unable to do manual labor. In 1864 he was married to Miss Lucelia Bort, daughter of Daniel Bort, of Illinois, and afterward followed agricultural pursuits in that State for a number of years. In 1873 he came to Nebraska, settled in Ayr Township, Adams County, entered 160 acres of land, which he has since increased to 640 acres, and has this all under fence and well improved. Although a Democrat he is not a party man and votes for principle. He has been school treasurer in his district, and is interested in all local affairs. To Mr. and Mrs. Carroll have been born ten children: John M., Charles H., Thomas B., Louis H., Frank, James C., Wesley A., Herron G., Maggie Lue and Mary O. The children are all at home.

Thomas W. Carter, farmer and stock raiser, Rose-

land, Neb. Mr. Carter is a native of Rhode Island, and was born in the city of Providence on August 21, 1844. His father, Charles W. Carter, was born on Breed's Hill, Charleston, Mass., was reared there, and when a young man went to Rhode Island, where he married Miss Phoebe Ann Patt, a native of that State. Mr. Carter was a blacksmith and machinist by trade, and after remaining in Rhode Island from 1852 until 1872 he moved to Adams County, Neb., and here passed the closing scenes of his life, his death occurring on August 19, 1882. His wife is still living. He was in Rhode Island during the Dorr trouble. T. W. Carter moved with his parents to Illinois in 1852, settled in McLean County, and August 15, 1862, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Seventh Illinois Infantry, and was transferred in 1863 to the Seventh Illinois Battery, and in 1864 to Battery K, First Illinois Light Artillery, serving until the close of the war. He was discharged in July, 1865, and was mustered out at Knoxville. He participated in the fight at Bean Station, and his battery whipped the famous Gray Horse battery of Longstreet. He also participated in the battle of Perryville, siege of Knoxville, Strawberry Plains and a great many lesser battles. He was not sick nor did he lose any time during his term of service. Returning to Illinois, McLean County, he there resided until 1872, when he moved to Adams County, Neb., in the fall of that year. In March, 1873, he entered land, and has since added to this and now has his place in a good state of cultivation. He was married here on March 19, 1883, to Mrs. Lydia J. Barnard, a native of Stueben County, Ind., born near Angola, and the daughter of O. V. Barnard. In his political views Mr. Carter affiliates with the Democratic party and has held some local positions. He was elected supervisor in 1886 and re-elected in 1887, serving two terms in that capacity. He then resigned in the last named year, moved to Alma and engaged in business there for one season, renting out his farm. He was appointed magistrate of Rose-land Township in 1889, and is a man who has the confidence and respect of all acquainted with him. He and Mrs. Carter are hospitable and very pleasant in all their intercourse with the public, and as such have the esteem of all. Mr. Carter in-

tends building a fine residence on his place the present season.

John A. Casto, a leading member of that well known and popular law firm of Batty & Casto, of Hastings, Neb., is a successful business man and in every respect is self-made. His birth took place in Clinton County, Ohio, May 31, 1852, and he is a son of Firman and Susan (Moore) Casto, natives of Pennsylvania, the father's birth occurring March 1, 1805. At an early day he removed to Ohio, and in 1858 from there to Illinois, and died in McDonough County, this State, on January 4, 1889, having lived the honest and worthy life of a farmer. His wife, who was born in Pennsylvania, survives him, and is a resident of Good Hope, Ill. From the time he was four years of age until he attained his majority John A. Casto resided on the homestead in Illinois, and from his father learned the intricacies of farm life, also lessons of industry and economy, which have been his stepping stones to success in later years. After attending the public schools a sufficient length of time he finished his education in the Normal School of Abingdon, Ill., and still later, as a law student, entered the office of C. F. Wheat, at Macomb, Ill. (in the fall of 1870), and at the end of twenty-one months took a course in the Chicago Union College of Law, and graduated in June with the class of 1883. In September of that year he came to Hastings where he entered upon the active practice of his profession, and in March, 1884, formed a partnership with Morris Cliggitt, a college classmate, which connection continued until May, 1887. Since that time Mr. Casto has been associated with Mr. Batty, and they constitute one of the leading firms of the county. Miss Etta M. Ratkin became his wife November 16, 1876. She was born in Illinois, and is the mother of a son, Earle. Mr. Casto belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and in his political views has always been a Republican, and on this ticket was elected in 1888 to the position of county attorney of Adams County. Three of his brothers, Jonathan, George and Thomas J., served in the Union army during the war, and the first named was killed in battle, the second died in the hospital, and only Thomas returned to his home from the field of action.

J. B. Cessna, attorney, Hastings, Neb. Prominent among the comparatively young men of Adams County, whose career thus far has been both honorable and successful, is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Bedford County, Pa., on the 24th of March, 1840, and his parents, William and Rachel (Mogart) Cessna, were natives also of the Keystone State. The father was born in 1800, and died in Bedford County, Pa., at the age of sixty-four years. The mother was born in 1789 and died in 1860. She was of German descent, while the father was of French and Italian. J. B. Cessna is the youngest of eleven children, ten of whom are now living. His brother John is a prominent politician of Pennsylvania, was speaker of the House of the Pennsylvania Legislature for three terms, and three times represented the Eighteenth Congressional District in Congress. He has been a prominent politician for forty years. J. B. Cessna first attended the public schools of Pennsylvania, and later attended the Alleghany Male and Female Seminary at Rainsburg, Pa. He entered the sophomore class of Franklin Marshall College, at Lancaster, Pa., in September, 1861, and graduated from the same in July, 1864. One year later he was admitted to the bar at Bedford, Pa., and practiced law in that and other counties until April, 1885, when he came to Hastings, Neb. He had a good practice in the counties of his native State, and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States on January 26, 1876, on motion of Hon. Jeremiah Black. His marriage to Miss Kate B. Brown, of Erie, Pa., occurred on June 12, 1872, and they have two children living: W. Brown and Reon B. In politics he adheres strictly to the Republican party. He is a member of the College Fraternity Phi Kapa Psi. He was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on May 15, 1872, and during his practice in that State he had quite a number of important cases, notable among which was the case entitled "*Noble vs. The Thompson Oil Company.*" The case was in the court for fifteen years. Mr. Cessna was connected with it as counsel for the plaintiffs below and defendants in error, and in March, 1879, the case was decided in favor of the defendants, in the Supreme

Court of the United States. The case involved \$50,000 and was of great legal importance. Since coming to Hastings. Mr. Cessna has had a good practice and is an independent thinker, deriving his information when practical from original sources, and is a hard working, industrious lawyer. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

William A. Chapman, M. D., is a man whom nature seems to have especially designed to be a physician, for he has met with more than ordinary success in the practice of his profession, and owing to his desire to keep out of the beaten path, his intelligence and energy, he has become well known to the citizens and the medical fraternity of Adams and many surrounding counties. He was born in Delaware, Ohio, on September 11, 1843, and is the eldest of four living children born to Rev. A. D. and Alma E. (Wigton) Chapman, the former's birth occurring in the "Green Mountain State" November 16, 1809, and his death in Malcom, Iowa, in 1880. He was a well known and popular minister of the Presbyterian Church, and was licensed to preach the gospel to his fellow men in the year 1838, being ordained the following year, from which date he continued an active worker for his Master until death called him home. His wife was born in Bradford, Pa., December 1, 1816, and is still residing in Malcom. Dr. Chapman removed to Iowa with his parents in 1859, and after attending the public schools until he acquired a fair education, he entered Iowa College, which he attended for some time. On September 30, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and was in active service for Uncle Sam until he received his discharge at Helena, Ark., in 1863. After remaining in college two years longer he went to Delaware, Ohio, and began carrying out a long cherished desire, that of studying medicine, in the office of Dr. T. B. Williams, who was surgeon of the Eighty-second Ohio during the war. He then took two courses of lectures in the Cleveland Medical College, and from this institution was graduated March 4, 1868, after which he returned to Malcom and entered at once upon the practice of the "healing art." In 1860 he removed to Marshalltown, Iowa, where he made his home till 1881; and while there

was for eight years chief surgeon of the Iowa Central Railroad. During the winter of 1878-79 he took lectures at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, graduating in the latter year; and the year 1885 found him also a graduate of the New York Polyclinic. In the fall of 1881 he removed to Trinidad, Colo., but five years later came to Hastings, Neb., and here has become well and favorably known, as stated above. Dr. Chapman makes a specialty of general surgery. He has a name for good judgment, and for being a cool, careful and skillful operator. This, with his uniform success, has won for him a reputation throughout Central Nebraska, of which he may justly feel proud. In 1887 he was appointed surgeon of the Burlington & Missouri Railroad, and of the Chicago & Northwestern in 1889. He is a Mason, a member of the G. A. R., and he and his wife, whom he married November 25, 1868, and whose maiden name was Mary L. Clark, are members of the Presbyterian Church. She was born in Peacham, Vt. They have two children: Alma J. and William H.

Carlos Clark, one of the leading farmers and representative men of Adams County, was born in the Empire State on September 10, 1828, and is the eldest of eleven children, eight of whom are now living, born to the union of Dolphus and Sally (Loring) Clark, natives of New York. The family settled in Illinois in 1838, and there the father cultivated the soil until his death, which occurred in La Salle County in 1886, when he was eighty years of age. The mother now resides in La Salle County, Ill., and is eighty years of age. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Clark, was born in Massachusetts and died in New York. In 1852 Carlos Clark began farming for himself in La Salle County, and there continued for eighteen years. He was then two years in Missouri, and in 1876 came to Adams County, Neb., and settled in Highland Township. In 1884 he moved to his present residence, two and a half miles from Hastings, and is now the owner of 160 acres of land, one of the best improved farms in Western Nebraska. He was married in 1852 to Miss Clarissa Dike, a native of Connecticut, who died in Missouri in 1869, leaving three children: Dolphus, Lee and Carlos. Mr. Clark's second mar-

riage occurred in 1878, to Miss Helen E. Kilmer, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of John and Betsey (Burger) Kilmer. Mr. and Mrs. Kilmer are both living, and are eighty-nine years of age each. They are natives of New York, and now reside in La Salle County, Ill. They are the parents of eleven children. Mr. Clark is one of the well-to-do farmers of the county.

T. M. Clark, city water works engineer, Hastings, Neb. This honorable and upright citizen of Hastings was originally from Darke County, Ohio, where he was born July 14, 1840, and is the son of A. B. and Julia (Lawrence) Clark, natives also of the Buckeye State. The father was born in 1813, and died in Darke County, Ohio, in 1865, and the mother, who was born in 1821, died in the same county in 1863. Of the fourteen children born to their union, eleven of whom are still living, T. M. Clark is the second in order of birth. He was early instructed in the mysteries of farm life, received his education in the public schools, and remained with his father until August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company G, Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Winchester, Lynchburg raid, Charleston (West Va.), Lewisburg, Moundfield, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Beverly, Va. He was kept confined at Pemberton for forty-five days and was exchanged in February, 1864, after which he returned home on a furlough for thirty days. After this he joined the regiment at Clarksburg, Va., where he was discharged in 1865, and then returned to his native State, where he engaged in the grocery business at New Madison. This occupation he continued until 1871, when he emigrated to Nebraska, and lived for eighteen months in Saline County. From there he went to Nebraska City, entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and for twelve years ran one of the "Q" engines. For five years after this he was a passenger engineer, and in the spring of 1878 he removed to Hastings, where he continued railroading until the strike in the spring of 1882. Since May, 1888, he has been engineer of the City Water Works. He was married in 1866 to Miss Nancy E. Cloyd, who was born in Ohio, January 24, 1843, and the fruits of this union have been two

children: Harry V. and Curt A. In his political views Mr. Clark is a Republican. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., also Encampment, Patriotic Order Sons of America, and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. He is one of the old settlers of Nebraska, and one of Hastings' respected citizens.

W. J. Clark, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Upon reaching the age when it became necessary for him to choose some calling in life to which he would afterwards adhere as his chosen occupation, Mr. Clark wisely adopted agricultural pursuits, and this has continued to receive his attention. He was born in Toronto, Canada, in 1854, and is the oldest son of six children born to Thomas and Nancy (Miller) Clark, natives of England and Canada, respectively. The father was born in 1809, and emigrated to Canada about 1830, settling at Toronto, where he carried on farming. He was first married to Miss Mary Linton, and they became the parents of these children: William, Mary, Sarah, Joseph, Francis, Alvina and Ellen. His first wife died in 1846, and in 1848 he married Miss Nancy Miller, who was born about 1825. They reared by this union six children, of whom four are still living: Orinda, Annie, I. W. J. and Hattie (Lydia and Johnnie deceased). Mr. Clark was a successful farmer, and died in 1889, at the age of eighty-one years. He was a public spirited citizen, and was always interested in the affairs of the country. The mother is still living, and is a resident of Toronto, Canada. W. J. Clark's early life was spent in the school room and in labor upon the farm. He started for himself in 1878, and the same year was married to Miss Melissa Steffens, a daughter of Joseph and Orinda Steffens, natives of Canada, who emigrated to Illinois at an early day and settled in Carroll County. There the father tilled the soil until his death in 1881. The mother is still living and is a resident of Illinois. Mr. Clark emigrated from Canada to Nebraska in 1884, settled on his present property, which consists of 160 acres of land, which he has improved and which is well stocked with horses and cattle of the Durham breed. He is a Republican in politics, and is township treasurer for 1890. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is steward, and

he is also president of the Ayr Township Sunday-school Association. He is interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches, and in fact every thing for the good of the county.

Isaac G. S. Cleland, contractor, Hastings, Neb. Were it necessary to include in the sketch of Mr. Cleland's life any items pertaining to his ability and skill as a mechanic or builder, perhaps the greatest compliment that could be paid him would be for us to point out those monuments of his handiwork which now grace so many of the cities and homesteads of Adams County. Mr. Cleland was originally from St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where his birth occurred on June 22, 1850, and is the youngest of ten children born to the union of Thomas and Jane M. (McMillen) Cleland, natives of Scotland. The parents died in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., whither they had emigrated at an early date. They had four sons, John, William, Thomas and George, who were soldiers in the late war, and two of them were in rebel prisons. They all enlisted in 1861, and served until the surrender. The father was a farmer by occupation. Isaac G. S. Cleland attended the schools of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and spent two years at Canton Academy. At the age of seventeen he began the carriage making trade, which he continued for five years, and then commenced the carpenter trade, which he carried on in New York State until the summer of 1884. On July 28 of that year he came to Hastings, and for a year and a half was foreman for J. R. Sims in the carpenter business. For nearly four years he has now been carpentering and contracting for himself, and as before mentioned, has built some of the best business houses and residences in Hastings. He erected the Cleland flats on Lexington Avenue, seven in number, and worth about \$12,000, and numerous other buildings. In his political views Mr. Cleland affiliates with the Republican party, without whisky. He was married on October 26, 1872, to Miss Mary Jane Allan, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., born in 1851, and the fruits of this union are two children, Charles A. and Celia M. Mrs. Cleland is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F., also of the

Modern Woodmen of America. He is a self-made man, and by his energy and enterprise has accumulated a comfortable competency. He employs from eight to fifteen men in his business.

J. H. Coffman, live stock auctioneer, and one of the well-known men of this part of Nebraska, was born in Harrison County, Ky., on April 29, 1838. He is the son of Judge Henry Coffman, a native of Jessamine County, Ky., born in 1809, and the grandson of Abraham Coffman, who was born in Strathburg, Germany, and who came to the United States prior to the Revolution, in which he was a soldier during the entire war. He was honorably discharged at Redstone, Pa., and subsequently went to what is now Fayette County, Ky., where he died at a ripe old age. Judge Henry Coffman was married to Miss Eliza Harrison, a native of Kentucky, born in the year 1814, and who now resides in Indianapolis. She is the daughter of Robert Harrison, who was a cousin of William Henry Harrison. Judge Coffman died in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1875. He was the father of fifteen children, J. H. Coffman being fifth in order of birth, and twelve of whom are now living. The latter was reared in Cynthiana, Ky., and began life for himself by ringing an auction bell for some auctioneer. For thirty-one years Mr. Coffman has made auctioneering a business, and is one of the most popular and thoroughly efficient representatives of that calling in Nebraska or the entire West. During 1889 he held 110 public sales. He came to Hastings in 1885, and has since been a resident of that city. During the late war he was captain of Company B, Forty-second Kentucky Volunteers, of the Union troops, and served four years. He was married in 1861 to Miss Latitia Patch, who died in Pennsylvania in 1869, leaving two children: James and Lydia. His second marriage occurred in 1881, to Miss Maria J. Gaddis, of Columbus, Ohio, and to them have been born six children: Adda, Roy, Earl, Dee, Ray and Grace. In politics he is an Independent Republican. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are much esteemed and respected citizens. Notwithstanding the exposure he has undergone in carrying on his business, he is a well preserved man and strictly temperate. He is enter-

prising and progressive, and has made his own way in life.

John M. Cole (deceased). It would seem that nature had intended Mr. Cole for a long and more than ordinarily useful life, but while in its meridian his career was closed forever. He was born in Seneca County, Ohio, October 9, 1838, and died February 6, 1880, mourned not only by his immediate family, but by his numerous friends and acquaintances, by whom his many sterling social and business qualities were seen and recognized. He remained with his parents in the State of his nativity until he attained his majority, receiving a common school education, and in 1881 enlisted in the Thirty-eighth Illinois Infantry, and was a faithful Union soldier for three years, or until the term of his enlistment had expired. He was in the engagements at Stone River, Missionary Ridge, Perryville, Fredericksburg, besides numerous engagements of equal note, or perhaps of even greater importance, and for nine months previous to receiving his discharge was sick in the hospital. He soon after went to Illinois, and was married in Stark County of that State November 17, 1864, to Christina A. Peterson, a native of Sweden, but who was reared and educated in Illinois. She was a daughter of Jonas Peterson, and after her marriage to Mr. Cole they settled down to farming in Stark County, continuing until 1872, at which time they moved to Nebraska and took up a homestead claim in Adams County. By industry and good management he increased his farm to 320 acres, but did not live to carry out the plans he had made concerning the conduct of his farm. His wife has since taken charge of affairs, and how well she has succeeded is evident in looking over her property, for the buildings are all in excellent condition and well kept up. She is, as was her husband, an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has reared her children in that belief. Their names are Flora, wife of Harvey Walters; William Austin, a young man, and John G., a lad of twelve years.

Hon. H. V. Cole is Adjutant-General of the State of Nebraska, and his career through life has been one of more than usual interest, for he is enterprising and progressive in his views, honorable and upright in his dealings, and is thoroughly posted on

all matters of public interest. He owes his nativity to Huron County, Ohio, his birth occurring there in 1842, he being the only child born to Vanransellar and Nancy J. (Barnes) Cole, who were born in Vermont and New York, respectively. The father died at the untimely age of twenty-five years, and his widow afterwards married again, and with her husband moved to Canada, where her demise occurred years afterwards, the subject of this sketch being eight years of age at the time. After the death of his mother he returned to Ohio, where he made his home with friends until he arrived at his tenth year, and was then sent to an uncle in New York, with whom he made his home for five years, the summer months being spent at farm labor, and the winter months in attending the district schools. In 1857 he determined not to be longer dependent on any one for his living, but decided to carve out his career for himself, and thinking the West afforded better opportunities for a young man to rise in the world than the East, he emigrated to Michigan and settled in Lenawee County, where his time was divided between farm work and attending school. This State continued to be his home until August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company C, Fourth Michigan Infantry, and served in the Fifth Army Corps in the Army of the Potomac, participating in the battles of Yorktown, New Bridge, Hanover, Gaines Mill, New Market, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg and numerous others. He was discharged for disability on May 21, 1863, but by December had recovered sufficiently to re-enlist, and this time became a member of Company G, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, Custer's Brigade, and was with Kilpatrick on his raid of 1864, and took part in the Battle of the Wilderness. He was also with Sheridan on his raid and participated in many sharp skirmishes, being wounded in an engagement at Haws' Shop, May 28, 1864, which resulted in total disability for further service. After remaining in the hospital at Washington, D. C., for thirteen months, he received his discharge on July 6, 1865, whereupon he returned to Michigan. In the fall of that year he entered Eastman's College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., but in the spring of the following year he returned to Michigan, and

continued his studies in a school of that State for six months longer. From 1867 until the spring of 1871 he was engaged in business at Addison, Mich., but prior to this on September 6, 1869, he was married to Miss Susan P. Crane, a native of Hillsdale County, Mich., whose parents were pioneers of that State. In October, 1871, he came to Adams County, Neb., located the fourth homestead in what is now Highland Township, bored the first well in that township, and broke the first prairie sod in that section. He proved his claim in August, 1873, but on account of wounds received during the war, had to give up farming, and moved to Juniata. After following the occupation of clerking for about a year, he engaged in the grocery business in Juniata, but later became associated with I. G. Dillon, and the firm took the name of Dillon & Cole, their house then becoming a general mercantile establishment. Their connection continued until January, 1879, when Mr. Cole purchased Mr. Dillon's interest, continuing in business alone until January, 1883, when a fire destroyed the most of his stock, and the balance he sold to E. N. Crane. Mr. Cole then began dealing in real estate, and was also actively engaged in the insurance business. In 1880 he was elected county commissioner, in which capacity he served by re-election four years. In 1884 he was elected to the State Legislature from Adams County, and so ably did he discharge the duties incumbent on this office, that he was re-elected for a second term in 1886, and in 1887 introduced a bill for the erection of an insane asylum at Hastings, which bill passed, and that fine structure stands to-day as a monument to his credit. He was chairman of the committee which introduced a bill to build a soldiers' home at Grand Island, and on April 11, 1887, he was appointed Adjutant-General on the Governor's staff. Mr. Cole has been quite successful in the accumulation of worldly goods, and owns property in various townships of the county and in other places also. He is pre-eminently a self-made man, and his example of industry, earnest and sincere endeavor to succeed in life, and the admirable manner in which he has surmounted all difficulties, are well worthy of imitation. He belongs to Geary Post No. 81, G. A. R., at Juniata, and has

served as Post Commander and Junior Vice-Commander of the Department, and Department-Commander in 1885. Socially he belongs to Juniata Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a patron of education and all worthy enterprises. To Mr. Cole and his wife a family of five children have been born, four of whom are living: Lucy J., Ely, Mabel and Chester Arthur. Albert Daniel died in infancy.

George Colling, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. The same peculiarities which seem to distinguish others of German nativity from those American born, are noticeable in the career of Mr. Colling since his settlement in this country—industry, close application to his chosen calling, economy and perseverance. An intelligent application of these principles have resulted in giving him an excellent estate of 340 acres, which he is now improving and cultivating to good advantage. He was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1874, and was fourth in a family of children born to the marriage of Theodore and Elizabeth (Schadeck) Colling. The father was a native of France, born in 1803, and lived in a portion of that country taken by the Prussians in 1813. He was a contractor and builder by trade, and in 1861 emigrated to the United States, settled in DuPage County, Ill., near Warrenville, and here followed the stone mason's trade for a number of years. He was married in his native country in 1831 to Miss Elizabeth Schadeck, a daughter of Peter Schadeck, a native of Rhine Province, Prussia; and the following children were born to this union: Henry, married and resides in Indianola, Neb.; Mary A. (deceased), Nicholas, married and resides in Indianola, Neb.; William, married and resides at the same place; John (deceased), Peter (deceased), George and Charles, who reside at Indianola, Neb. All were born in the Old Country. The mother died on February 5, 1879, in Illinois, and the father died June 21, 1880, in the same State. Both were members of the Catholic Church. George Colling spent his boyhood days in the Old Country, and was thirteen years of age when he came to the United States. He attended school in Illinois, and when starting

out for himself engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married in Illinois on March 9, 1869, to Miss Mary E. Kinnear, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Cline) Kinnear, natives of New Brunswick, born in 1816 and 1821, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Kinnear moved to Illinois in 1847 and settled in Kane County, near St. Charles, and there Mr. Kinnear received his final summons in 1867. His wife is still living, and resides at St. Charles, Ill. George Colling emigrated to Nebraska in September, 1872, settled where he now lives, and took up 160 acres of government land, to which he has since added eighty acres, and has one of the finest farms in that portion of the county. The country was all in prairie at that early date, but since then Mr. Colling has witnessed many improvements and changes. He was in the county before Hastings was thought of, and when Juniata was the county seat; was there during the grasshopper season, and witnessed the heavy snow storm of 1873. The result of his marriage has been the birth of five children: Elizabeth Mary, born in DuPage County, Ill., on January 25, 1870; Bertha Jane, born in Adams County, Neb., on December 31, 1874; Anna L., born in Adams County, Neb., on July 12, 1878; Edward George, born in Adams County, December 30, 1881, and Etta Nathelia, who was born January 10, 1885, and died February 3, 1887. Mr. Colling has been justice of the peace of his township for eight years, and has lately been re-elected for two years more. He has been a member of the school board a number of times, and is a man who has the respect and esteem of all who know him. In 1864, during the late war, he and his brother William enlisted in Company A, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Resaca, Atlanta, and a number of skirmishes. He was in Gen. Sherman's army, Fifty-second Illinois, Company A, First Brigade, of the Sixteenth Army Corps. In the fall of 1864 the Sixteenth was consolidated with the Fifteenth Army Corps, after which it was called the Fifteenth. Mr. Colling and his brother were discharged on July 12, 1865. He then went to Illinois.

A. Coltrin, farmer and stock raiser, Pauline, Neb. Originally from the Buckeye State, where his

birth occurred in 1845, Mr. Coltrin is now successfully following agricultural pursuits, a calling that has for ages received undivided efforts from many worthy individuals, and one that always furnishes sustenance to the ready worker. He was one of a large family of children born to E. C. and Elizabeth (Sinclair) Coltrin, the father a native of New York, born in 1799, and the mother of Vermont. The father was a carpenter by trade, and was married in 1825 to Miss Sinclair. Their children were named as follows: Sylvester, C. W., Edwin, Dollie A., Sarah, Mary, Eliza (one died in infancy), William H., A., Frances and Ellen. The parents of these children moved to Illinois in 1852, settled in Jo Daviess County, and there the father followed his trade. He died in that State in 1882, and the mother in 1886. Both were members of the Baptist Church. The father was a good Republican and was a public spirited citizen. A. Coltrin received his education in the schools of Illinois, attained his growth there, and in 1862 he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, for three years, under Col. Mulligan. He was in the battles of Kingstown, Petersburg, Sailor Creek, and was in numerous severe skirmishes. In July, 1864, he was wounded by a shell in the right leg, and was in the hospital for a number of months. He again entered the service in November of the same year, and was discharged in 1865. Returning to Illinois, he worked at the stone mason trade for some time, and in 1873 he emigrated to Nebraska and located where he now lives. He entered 160 acres of land, and this he now has well improved. He was married in 1882 to Miss Lizzie R. White, daughter of John White, of Hanover Township, this county, and to them has been born one son: Ray, whose birth occurred in 1883. Mr. Coltrin was elected justice of the peace when the town was organized, and has held the place ever since. He is a Republican, and is interested in political matters, being chairman of the township committee. He is interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches, and is ever ready to lend a helping hand to all laudable enterprises. He is a self-made man, and all his property has been the result of honest endeavor and many hard days' work.

James Cooper, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein,

Neb. This much respected and enterprising citizen was born in Bartholomew County, Ind., May 6, 1833, and is the son of William Cooper, a native of Kentucky. The elder Cooper was reared in the Blue Grass State, and went to Indiana when a young man, where he was married to Dulcinea Batey, a native also of Kentucky. He followed tilling the soil in Bartholomew County, then Tipton County, where his death occurred in 1854. His wife survived him until 1868. James Cooper moved to Tipton County with his father in 1849, and there passed his boyhood days. His health was quite poor while growing up, and the principal part of his education has been received since attaining his majority. He received a good common school education, and after finishing the same engaged in agricultural pursuits on a farm in Howard County, Ind., in 1861, continuing at this for a number of years. He then returned to Tipton County where he tilled the soil until coming West in 1883, and then settled on his present property in December of that year. He has 320 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation and nearly all fenced. He has good and substantial buildings on the same and an excellent orchard. Mr. Cooper was married in Howard County, Ind., August 9, 1864, to Miss Rachel McGraw, a native of Shelby County, Ind., and the daughter of John McGraw. To this union were born four children: Sarah, wife of N. J. Fuel; Martha, wife of William A. Gullion; Charles C., and Mary, wife of C. T. Gates. Mr. Cooper is a Republican in politics, and has always adhered strictly to that party. He was elected magistrate of Logan Township in 1884, and so well was he liked that he was re-elected at the expiration of his term, having served six consecutive years in that capacity.

J. W. Coulter, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Few who have moved to Nebraska have better improved the meager advantages offered by the State in its infancy than J. W. Coulter. Born in Washington County, Ill., in September, 1830, he spent his boyhood days in assisting with the duties of the home farm, together with attendance at the public schools, and in 1849 was united in marriage to Mrs. Margaret (Armor) McDill, daughter of John and Harriet Armor, natives of South Carolina, who

had moved to Illinois in 1822. To Mr. and Mrs. Coulter were born six children: Hattie (now Mrs. Hensign, of Nebraska), Robert (married, and resides in Colorado), James (married, in Nebraska), Milton and Addie (twins), Adelia (now Mrs. Carlile) and Fred. Mr. Coulter began the study of medicine in 1858, and commenced practicing in Illinois in 1860. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Sixtieth Illinois Infantry, and the principal battles in which he engaged are as follows: Island No. 10, Shiloh, Nashville, Corinth, Murfreesboro; was eight months at Nashville, Missionary Ridge, and was from Atlanta to the Sea. He was in service three and a half years, and was promoted from a private to the rank of second lieutenant. He was discharged in August, 1865. In 1871 Mr. Coulter emigrated to Nebraska, settled in Lincoln, where he remained until 1872, and then moved to Blaine Township, Adams County, settling on his present land which was then all prairie. He now has 160 acres, splendidly located, and it is considered one of the finest places in the county. Being one of the pioneers he has experienced many trying times, and has seen some of the terrible snow storms that have visited that region. He has witnessed the entire growth of the country and the marvelous changes that have been made. Robert and Isabella (Wiley) Coulter, his parents, were natives of Tennessee and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was born in 1809 and moved to Illinois in 1820. He was a son of Robert Coulter, and his wife was a daughter of John Wiley, a native of Pennsylvania. Robert Coulter and wife became the parents of nine children: J. W., James, Robert, Arthur, Martha, Samuel, Sarah, Philip and Lizzie. The father of these children died in 1851. He was a successful farmer and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. He was first a Whig in politics, then a Republican, and was a strong anti-slavery man. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her children. She is a member of the same church.

John H. Coulter, farmer, Kenesaw, Neb. A glance at the lives of many representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal sketches of some honored, influential citizens, but none more worthy or deserving of mention than Mr.

John H. Coulter. This gentleman resides six miles northeast of Kenesaw, three miles southwest of Prosser, and has eighty acres of excellent land, all well improved. He was born in Canada, near Stratford, Ont., January 24, 1854, and is the son of Robert and Louisa (Hunter) Coulter. Robert Coulter is a native of Tyrone County, Ireland, and came to America when but four years of age, locating in County Perth, Canada. There he grew to manhood, married Miss Hunter, and in 1879 he and family moved to Michigan, and, in 1880, from Port Huron to Nebraska, locating on Section 12, Kenesaw Township. He and wife now reside near the village of Kenesaw. Their family consisted of eight children, four sons and four daughters, John H. Coulter being third in order of birth. He attained his growth on the home farm, received the rudiments of an education in the common schools, and moved with his parents to Nebraska in 1880, passing through the pioneer period of this region. On January 13, 1889, he married Miss Leona Chambers, a native of Indiana, who came with her parents to Nebraska, and located near Juniata at an early date. In 1889 Mr. Coulter was elected assessor of Kenesaw Township, and has also served as supervisor of the public highways, and has been a member of the school board. He is a first class agriculturist and a man much respected by all.

A. W. Cox, of the house furnishing and undertaking establishment of Cox & Reed, was born in Indiana, July 10, 1837, and is the son of Bennett and Elizabeth (Kindley) Cox, natives of Ohio and Indiana, respectively. The father died in Nebraska at the age of seventy-three years, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Hastings. A. W. Cox first attended the common schools, but later entered Earlham College at Richmond, Ind., and from there went to Indianapolis, where he was engaged in the forwarding and commission business. In 1871 he emigrated to Nebraska, and for a year and a half was a member of the firm of Cox, Kingman & Ballard. January, 1873, he came to Hastings and engaged in the lumber business, which he continued for about a year and a half, after which for four years he was in the hardware business. Since that time, and for about ten years, he has been in

his present business. He built the fourth house in Hastings and has seen that settlement grow to its present dimensions, with a population of 15,000. He is a Republican in politics, and was a member of the first city council of Hastings. He was united in marriage, in 1863, to Miss Ellen Ballard, who was born in Indiana in 1844, and to them have been born two children: Lueva, now the wife of A. Yeazel, of Hastings, and Mary, wife of Edward Allen, cashier of the First National Bank at Ottawa, Ill. For about one year after Mr. Cox came to Hastings his were the only female children in the town.

George Crafford, agriculturist and stockman, of Zero Township, Adams County, Neb., was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1828. Harriet S. Dunbar, his wife, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., in 1834. George Crafford was the tenth of twelve children born to Joseph and Deborah (Jackson) Crafford, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, the former in 1780 and the latter in 1785. They were married in Washington County, Pa., in 1803. The following are the children given them: Elisabeth, Elijah, Rachel, Frances, Rebecca, Ruth, Joseph, John, Thomas, George, Martha and Mary. Mr. Crafford removed with his family to McDonough County, Ill., at an early day, and was there engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1863. He was a Republican, a public spirited citizen, and was deeply interested in the welfare of his adopted country. He was postmaster of Raccoon, Pa., for years, and while in Illinois was postmaster of a town there also. His wife died in Illinois in 1859, both being members of the Presbyterian Church. Their son, George Crafford, started out in life for himself in 1851, and two years later was married to Harriet S. Dunbar, a daughter of Noah W. and Sarah (Hops) Dunbar, both of whom were born in York State. He farmed in Illinois until 1868, then removed to Lucas County, Iowa, where he made his home until 1870, then went to Kansas, and a short time later came to Cass County, Neb. This county continued to be his home until 1873, since which time he has been engaged in farming and stock raising in Adams County. He is the owner of one-half section of land—160 acres in Adams County and a like quantity in Webster

County. He is an enterprising citizen, is a Republican in his political views, and on this ticket was elected to the office of county supervisor in 1884, and he has also been a member of his local school board a number of terms. He is one of the wealthy farmers of the county and his farm is well stocked, his cattle and sheep being of an especially good grade. His children's names are as follows: Joseph M., who died in 1879; Noah W., who is married to Mary E. Nichols, their union taking place in 1878; George C., Leonia E. and Mable M., who was born in Cass County, Neb. The four first named were born in McDonough County, Ill.

Alexander H. Cramer is an excellent example of what can be accomplished in life when thorough determination to succeed is coupled with energy, perseverance and close application, and he is now unquestionably one of Adams County's most public spirited citizens. He was born in Utica, N. Y., January 31, 1852, but his primary education was received in Oneida, Ill., after which he was engaged in farming, and later clerked in the store of Pratt & Lawson; and in this capacity remained with the firm after their removal to Hastings, Neb., October 1, 1872. However, in the spring of 1873, he entered the employ of A. W. Cox, a lumber dealer, but the same year, being a staunch supporter of the Republican party, he was elected on that ticket to the office of clerk of Adams County, and served by re-election three successive terms, later serving four years as clerk of the district court. In 1877 he purchased a set of abstract books and engaged in that business, making the first complete set of abstract books in Adams County, all of which are now the property of the firm of Cramer & Rohrer. In 1881 Mr. Cramer formed a partnership with H. Bostwick, and opened what was then known as the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, which was located where the City National Bank now stands. In December, 1885, Mr. Cramer sold his interest to his partner and engaged in the abstract, loan and insurance business, at the same time dealing extensively in real estate. In July, 1886, he became one of the organizers of the Western Loan and Investment Company, of which he was chosen vice-president, and the same year the firm of Cramer,

Rohrer & Robinson was organized and continued two years, when Mr. Robinson withdrew, and the firm now stands as Cramer & Rohrer. They are safe, thorough and reliable business men, and without doubt deserve the large patronage which they command. He belongs to Hastings Lodge No. 50 of the A. F. & A. M., and is also a member of Hastings Lodge No. 28 of the K. of P. His marriage to Miss Ella Cox, daughter of Bennett and Elizabeth Cox, was solemnized in October, 1884. Mrs. Cramer was born in Henry County, Ind., and is the mother of two children, Edna and Mabel. Mr. Cramer is a son of Alexander and Cynthia (Harris) Cramer, who were born in New Jersey and New York in 1810 and 1822 respectively, and the former's death occurred in the State of Iowa in February, 1874. In 1856 he removed with his family to Wisconsin, but thirteen years later settled in Illinois, and finally in Iowa. The mother is still living, and resides at Indianola, Neb.

E. N. Crane, merchant, Kenesaw, Neb. Prominent among, and one of those citizens of Kenesaw who have held the advancement of the town and Adams County above all personal interests, and who have devoted years of their time and labored assiduously for its advancement, is the subject of this article. He owes his nativity to Hillsdale County, Mich., where his birth occurred on March 14, 1853, and is a descendant of one of the old Puritan families, his ancestors coming to America long before the war for independence, and some of them participated in that memorable struggle. His paternal grandfather died from the effects of a wound received in the War of 1812. Mr. Crane is a worthy representative of this old family, and sound Puritanical traits of integrity and industry have characterized his successful career. His parents, Daniel C. and Lucy (Benedict) Crane, were both natives of New York State, were married in that State, and in 1840 emigrated to Michigan, being among the first settlers of Hillsdale County. They resided there until 1878, when they removed to Hastings, Neb., and there Mr. Crane died in 1877, at the age of seventy-one years. His widow still survives and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Gen. A. V. Cole, at Juniata, Neb. Young Crane grew to manhood in

that newly developed country, when the district school was the Alma Mater of many, and naturally received a better practical than literary education. It is very probable that there he developed the true business principles which have characterized his success so far. He early aspired to a mercantile life, and in order to better qualify himself for such he entered Mayhew Business College, of Detroit, Mich., from which he graduated in 1875. Soon after leaving college he accepted the position of book-keeper for the firm of Smith Bros., an extensive mercantile firm of Addison, Mich., and remained with them until the spring of 1876, when failing health compelled him to resign. In the hopes of regaining his health he began traveling in the West, and spent a part of the time at Juniata, Neb., after which he went to Philadelphia to attend the Centennial Exposition. He then returned to Juniata, but later engaged as a travelling salesman, which occupation he followed until 1883, when he came to Kenesaw and established himself in the general mercantile business. In 1883 he erected his present business block, the largest and finest business house in Kenesaw. He has always taken an active interest in the general welfare of the place, and has been prominently identified with all movements tending towards its improvement. He is a charter member of Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M., also a member of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, Hastings, Neb., and takes a deep interest in political matters, being chairman of the Adams County Republican convention in 1887. On July 26, 1878, he was united in marriage, at Juniata, Neb., with Miss Ella V. Light, a native of Angola, Ind., and their union has been blessed by the birth of two children: Susan Agnes and Daniel C. Mr. Crane is a man of genial disposition, courteous and charitable, and enjoys with his family the respect and esteem of all.

William S. Crow, ex-county treasurer of Adams County, and now actively engaged in farming and stock raising, was born in Fayette County, Pa., August 2, 1835, being a son of Alexander and Christina (Sadler) Crow, who were born in Maryland and Fayette County, Pa., and died in Vinton County, Ohio, aged fifty-seven and sixty-two, respectively. The paternal grandfather, John Crow,

was a German who came to the United States at an early day, and died in Licking County, Ohio. William S. Crow is the fourth of nine children, five now living, and when about one year old was taken by his parents to Guernsey County, Ohio, and was there brought up to the life of a farmer, learning during his youth many lessons of industry and perseverance, which have since stood him in good stead. After acquiring a fair knowledge of the English branches in the district schools near his home, he entered the scientific course in Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, in which institution he graduated in the commercial department, after which he spent nearly fifteen years in teaching in the public schools in Southern Ohio. In 1864 he served for one hundred days in the United States service, doing duty at City Point, Va., during the siege of Richmond. In the fall of 1875 he emigrated to Nebraska, and in 1876 he homesteaded his present property, and has since given his attention to tilling the soil and raising stock, and the success which has attended his efforts denotes him to be a thrifty and intelligent agriculturalist. His farm of 280 acres is one of the best improved in the county, and being a natural mechanic, all his buildings have been erected by himself. He has always been a Republican in politics, and his first presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont. In 1881 he was elected to the office of treasurer of Adams County, and for two years discharged the duties of this responsible position in a manner highly complimentary to himself, and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He is one of the substantial men of the county, is thoroughly practical, and does not use tobacco or intoxicants in any form.

James B. Dallas, hardware merchant, Hastings, Neb. No better proof of the advancement of Hastings within the last ten years can be shown than the dimensions which the hardware trade has assumed. Among others, one of the largest is the well known house of James B. Dallas, who established his business in 1883. He was born in Urbana, Ohio, January 20, 1859, and is the younger of two children born to the union of James B. and Sarah E. (McClellan) Dallas, natives of Ohio. The father was born in 1829, and died in his native county in Ohio, in

1860. He was a farmer by occupation. The mother was born in 1831, and now resides in Franklin, Ohio. James B. Dallas was reared in Middletown, Ohio, and there attended school. He emigrated to Hastings, Neb., in 1877, was for some time in the employ of Phillips & Hamot in the grocery business, and then began the hardware business in the employ of Lawson & Hamot. In 1883 he began the business for himself in partnership with C. H. Dietrich, and about one year later changed to Dallas & Litton, which continues at the present time. They are doing well and are enterprising business men. Mr. Dallas was united in marriage in 1884 to Miss Amelia Litton, a native of St. Joseph, Mo., born in 1865, and the daughter of William and Elizabeth Litton. To Mr. and Mrs. Dallas has been born one child, Joseph D., whose birth occurred January 4, 1888. Mr. Dallas is an uncompromising Democrat and his first presidential vote was cast for Gen. Hancock. He is a prominent young business man of the city.

Nicholas F. Damron keeps a livery sale stable at Hastings, Neb., which from the large business done, not only exemplifies the importance of the town, but reflects credit upon his management also. He has been a resident of Adams County since November 4, 1877, but was born in Pike County, Mo., December 4, 1838, and is one of eight children born to James T. and Martha J. (Thurman) Damron, who were native Virginians. The father died in Minnesota, in 1861, and his wife in 1887. Nicholas F. Damron, owing to the early death of his father, was compelled to fight his own way in the world, and after acquiring such education as could be obtained in the public schools prior to his thirteenth year, he began driving a peddling wagon in Southern Wisconsin, and then followed the occupation of merchandising until his removal to Hastings at the above named date. For two years after his arrival here he conducted the Commercial Hotel, which stood on the present site of his livery stable, but in 1889 the building was consumed by fire, and a short time after he erected the present Commercial Hotel. He has been engaged in the livery and sale business for the past eight years and has bought and sold as many horses as any other man in Nebraska, and is



James Leine

(DECEASED)

ADAMS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

ever ready to purchase good animals, guaranteeing a ready sale of any stock placed in his hands. In point of convenience and in regard to the animals and vehicles which he owns, his establishment is second to none in the State. His residence is one of the finest in the city, which with all its improvements cost about \$12,000. He was married in 1861 to Miss Frances V. Jefferson, a native of the "Empire State," who is well known as an admirable housekeeper and a worthy and intelligent lady. They have three children: Edith, James F. and Birdie. Mr. Damon belongs to Hastings Lodge No. 50, of the A. F. & A. M.

Walter P. Davis is a proper representative of the energetic and prosperous agriculturists of Adams County, Neb., which element has done so much to advance the interests of the State. He was born in Dearborn County, Ind., January 30, 1839, and received early and careful training in the mysteries of farm life from his father, Nicholas Davis, who was a well-to-do agriculturist. The latter was born on Blue Grass soil, but was reared in the "Hoosier State," and was there married to Rachel Randall, a native of Rush County, Ind. In 1857 he moved with his family to Cumberland County, Ill., but in 1861 he settled in Mattoon, where he made his home until after the war, then located on a farm in Coles County, and at a still later period took up his abode in Clark County, where he continued to till the soil until his death in August, 1879. His wife survives him and is a resident of Omaha, making her home with a son. Their family, consisting of five sons and one daughter, grew to mature years, and all are now living and are the heads of families. Walter Davis was sixteen years of age upon his removal to Illinois, and there, in September, 1861, he and two brothers enlisted in Company I, Fifth Illinois Cavalry; he served his country faithfully until mustered out of service at Vicksburg, November 17, 1864, at which time he was promoted from a private to the position of sergeant. He was in the engagements at Pochontas and Cotton Plant and in the siege and battles around Vicksburg, besides many small engagements and skirmishes. After receiving his discharge he returned to Illinois, and until 1872 was engaged in farming in Coles and Cumberland

Counties. In 1873 Nebraska became his home, and after farming on land near where he now lives about one year he homesteaded his present property, which consists of 160 acres, all of which is fine farming land and well fenced. His residence is a substantial frame, one and a half stories in height, and all his out-buildings are commodious and in good repair. He has eight acres of timber land and a well selected fruit orchard of four acres, and his property is well improved in other ways. He has always been identified with the Republican party, and has served as magistrate for nine or ten consecutive years. He has been a delegate to county, State and National conventions, and has always taken an active part in the campaigns of his party. He is now a member of Geary Post No. 180, G. A. R., and he and wife belong to the United Brethren Church. He was married in Cumberland County, Ill., in August, 1859, to Mariah Needham, a native of that county, and a daughter of P. D. Needham, by whom he has the following family: W. E., Lorena (wife of H. K. Brown), James N., George, Charles, Lucy, Nettie, Denison D. and Minnie.

J. K. Dean, farmer and stock raiser, Pauline, Neb. Mr. Dean emigrated from Livingston County, Ill., to Adams County, Neb., in September, 1877, and was one of the pioneers of Little Blue Township. He was born in Wayne County, N. Y., in 1822; was the third in a family of five children born to the union of Joseph and Elizabeth (Barrows) Dean, natives of Connecticut. The father in his younger days followed the cooper's trade, but later was a successful agriculturist. He was married in his native State in 1812, and emigrated to New York at a very early date, where he continued to cultivate the soil. He died in that State on February 6, 1842, and the mother died in October, 1861. Grandfather Levi Dean was a Revolutionary soldier, and died from the effects of service in that war. Grandfather Aaron Barrows was also in the Revolutionary War, and the families on both sides were early settlers in the colonies. J. K. Dean was taught the rudiments of farm life by his father at an early day, being educated in the subscription schools of New York. His brother and sisters were named as follows: Sarah, now Mrs. Wolcott, of Wayne

County, N. Y.; Hester, died February 2, 1884, in Adams County, Neb.; Levi W., was born July 18, 1817, and died December 3, 1838, at Butler, Wayne County, N. Y. Our subject was married in the last named county on October 25, 1843, to Miss Mary Ann Post, a native of Stanford, Dutchess County, N. Y., and the daughter of Daniel and Mary (Cronk-hite) Post, natives also of New York. The father was a farmer and mechanic, and in 1852 moved to La Salle County, Ill., and thence to Miami County, Kan., in 1873. His wife died in Illinois in 1867, and his death occurred in 1885. After his marriage Mr. Dean remained in New York until 1857, when he emigrated to Illinois and engaged in farming. In 1863 he moved to Livingston County and settled in Sunburg Township. At the breaking out of the war he enlisted in La Salle County, but was taken sick. In 1863 he went into service in Company D, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and was on duty for six months, when he was promoted to the ordnance department. He was at DeVall's Bluff, Helena, Saline Cross Roads and others. He kept charge of the books, and was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., in 1865. After returning to Livingston County he followed agricultural pursuits, and was for some time in the hardware business. In 1877 he emigrated to Adams County, Neb., and purchased 160 acres of land in Little Blue Township, which he immediately commenced improving. He has always taken an active part in politics, and his vote is cast with the Republican party. He has been justice of the peace of his township for eleven years, and has filled that position in different places for the past thirty years. He is a member of Huron Post No. 151, G. A. R., and is Senior Vice Commander of the same. To his marriage have been born seven children: Huldah, now Mrs. Miller, of Adams County; J. W., enlisted in the Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry in 1864, and was at the battle of Petersburg; he was taken sick, and is still suffering; he was honorably discharged in 1865, and resides in Adams County; George, married and resides in Kansas; Medora, now Mrs. Sherman, of Adams County; J. M., married and a resident of Adams County; Lucien and W. H., also both living and in Adams County.

Lucien Dean. Although a young man Mr. Dean has labored earnestly as an agriculturist, and his energy, coupled with strict integrity and honesty of purpose, has placed him among the leading farmers of Adams County. He was born in La Salle County, Ill., June 21, 1861, and was one of a family of 7 children born to James K. and Mary A. (Post) Dean, who removed from La Salle to Livingston County in 1862, where Lucien was reared and educated, and learned the intricacies of farm work on his father's land. The family removed to the State of Nebraska in 1877, and settled on a farm of 120 acres in Little Blue Township, Adams County, but Lucien only remained with his father until he was eighteen years of age, then began working for himself by the month, continuing for five years, then began tilling the soil on his own responsibility, purchasing land in Section 6, Township 5, Range 9, to the amount of 167 acres, the property being partly improved. He is much interested in stock raising and has a large and valuable drove of cattle and hogs. His enterprises in Nebraska have met with excellent results, and he has done his full share in developing Adams County, and here he expects to make his permanent home. So far as his means will allow he contributes to the building of churches and schools, and he is otherwise interested in the improvement of the county, and is ever ready to assist all feasible enterprises. In his political views he is a Republican, and in 1886 and 1887 was elected town clerk. His marriage, which occurred on October 21, 1882, was to Miss Mary A. Palmer, the adopted daughter of William H. Palmer, of New York State. Mrs. Dean was born in that State, July 12, 1855. Mr. Dean's father and mother were born in New York in 1823 and 1822, respectively, and after their marriage, in 1857, removed to Illinois, and since 1877 have resided in Nebraska, where they have become well and favorably known.

Jacob DeWester, farmer, Hastings, Neb. The County of Adams is indeed fortunate in having among her foreign-born element men whose industry, strict attention to business, economy and perseverance have produced such substantial results in the different affairs with which they have connected

themselves. Mr. DeWester belongs to this class, for, originally from Germany, his location in this county dates from 1872. He was born on the Rhine Province in 1840, and was second in a family of five children born to John and Mary (Leopold) DeWester, also natives of the Rhine Province, Germany. The parents left their native country in 1853, crossed the ocean to the United States and located in Rush County, Ind. Here the father followed farming and made that county his home until his death in 1882. The mother died two years later. Jacob DeWester was partly reared on the farm in Rush County, although up to thirteen years of age he resided in Germany and was educated in the schools of that country. In August, 1862, he enlisted from Rush County in Company H, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry, and was mustered into service at Indianapolis. He participated in the battle of Richmond and Vicksburg, was in the Red River expedition, Pleasant Hill, and numerous other engagements. He had the buttons shot from his clothing, but was never wounded. He was discharged at New Orleans in 1865, after which he returned to Rush County, Ind., where he tilled the soil. He was married in Indiana in 1862, to Miss Martha Norton, a native of North Carolina, and the daughter of George and Harriet Norton, also natives of North Carolina. At an early day, 1853, her parents settled in Indiana, where the mother died in 1883. The father resides in Iowa and is a successful tiller of the soil. In 1872 Mr. DeWester came to Adams County, Neb., entered 160 acres which he improved, but which he afterwards sold, and now owns eighty acres, all under a good state of cultivation. Mr. DeWester is not active in politics, but votes with the Independent party. He is a member of Strickland Post No. 13, G. A. R., at Hastings. To his marriage were born these children: Jacob, married and resides in the township; John, Lizzie, now Mrs. Ale, of West Blue Township; Fred, Hattie and Minnie. Mr. DeWester was one of the first settlers of Adams County, and has been a witness of the wonderful growth of the same. He passed through the three seasons of grasshopper raids, the largest and hardest in 1874, and still thinks there is no State like Nebraska. He was

road overseer for a number of years, and aids with a ready hand and willing heart all laudable enterprises.

Ira G. Dillon (deceased). Nature seems to have intended Mr. Dillon for a long and more than ordinarily useful life, but alas for human hopes and expectations, while just in the meridian of life his career was closed forever. He was born in Hudson, Mich., August 26, 1836, and was a son of Michael and Margaret Jane (Griswold) Dillon, who were pioneers and farmers of Michigan. Ira G. Dillon's youth was spent on his parents' homestead, he receiving favorable opportunities for obtaining an education in the public schools of his native State, which opportunities he did not fail to improve. At the age of twenty-four years he was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Davis, but their wedded life was of short duration, for she died August 25, 1868, leaving two children: Ina May, wife of John P. Doar, a prominent lawyer of Lincoln, Neb.; and Flora, who is now deceased, her death occurring July 27, 1865. Soon after his marriage Mr. Dillon went to Saginaw, where he was engaged in the lumber business until his removal to St. Louis, Mich., where he followed the calling of an architect and builder. Here on July 20, 1867, he espoused Miss Laura P. Brudige, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of M. and Harriet (Parmelee) Brudige, the father a native of York State, and the mother of Ohio. Mrs. Dillon is a very finely educated lady and is a graduate of Oberlin College, Ohio, and finished her musical education in Pennsylvania, in which State she spent two years perfecting herself in this art, following it as a calling several years prior to her marriage. Eight of her aunts were graduates of Oberlin College, and one, Eliza Parmelee, is a wealthy and talented lawyer of New Portage, Ohio. In 1871 Mr. Dillon came to Nebraska, and being possessed of great energy and much ability, he was not long in securing a comfortable competency in his new location. He first settled on a homestead one and a half miles east of Juniata and after erecting a good residence, setting out orchards and otherwise improving his property he, at the end of five years, moved to Juniata where he bought property and built him a comfortable residence. He was first

engaged in contracting and building after coming to the county, and erected many of the principal dwellings of the town. In the occupation of handling grain, lumber and coal, he was in partnership with J. M. Sewell for some time, and during this time they erected the first grain elevator of the place. Later he was associated in business with a Mr. Cole for about two years. He was an active politician and was the first marshall of Juniata, always ready to promote the interests of the town and county. He was in every respect a self-made man and his death, which occurred March 12, 1884, was universally regretted. He left an estate for his family valued at some \$25,000, and in every way was a most worthy man, a kind father and a considerate husband. He was a member of the Baptist Church and his widow belongs to the Congregational Church. To them were born the following family: Lorena Mary, born September 15, 1869, is a teacher of music at Crete; Margaret Jane was born March 23, 1872, and is attending Doane College at Crete; Grace Wilber was born January 12, 1879; Herbert Michael was born February 6, 1881, and an infant daughter who died unnamed.

William H. Dillon, hotel proprietor, Hastings, Neb. It is a fact long since recognized as an axiom that nothing adds so much to the success and happiness of the community as a well kept hotel. It is, therefore, with pride that we accord the space in this volume for one of the best and leading hotels of the commonwealth. Mr. Dillon was originally from Delaware County, Iowa, where his birth occurred on December 16, 1841, and is the son of Gilbert D. and Mary (Schoonover) Dillon, natives of New York. The father was born in 1800, came to Iowa in 1836 and established the first bank at Dubuque. He was one of the pioneers and a leading citizen of Delaware County. His death occurred in 1874. The mother was born in 1815 and died on the old Iowa homestead in February, 1875. Their family consisted of six children, William H. being third in order of birth. His boyhood days were divided between assisting on the farm and attending the common schools, where he received a fair education. Later he attended college at Epworth, and after finishing there he went to Dubuque, in March, 1864, and

clerked in a dry goods store for three years. After this he was on the farm two years, and then embarked in the dry goods business at Worthington, Iowa, where he continued for two more years. He then sold out and for nine years was in the insurance business, being special agent and collector for a number of years for the Watertown Fire Insurance Company, of New York. In 1879 he engaged in the grocery business at Hopkinton, Iowa, and continued at this until 1883, when he sold out and emigrated to Nebraska. He purchased 160 acres in the Indian Reservation and later sold out, and in August, 1885, he came to Hastings. He continued at the insurance business until February, 1886, when he engaged in the hotel business and ran the New England House for one year, and ran the Commercial Hotel for two years. In February, 1889, he took charge of the Bostwick, and this he has since conducted. It has gained a just celebrity since coming under the present management, its trade taxing its accommodations to the utmost. A hotel could not be conducted in a manner more pleasing to its regular customers and the traveling public. He was married in Magnolia, Iowa, in 1871, to Miss Nellie Hayward, the daughter of Rev. W. H. and Lydia Hayward, and the fruits of this union have been two children: Grace G. and Harry H. In politics Mr. Dillon is a Republican, and he is a member of the A. O. U. W.

Gen. Caleb J. Dilworth. In the history of Adams County, Neb., in its development, growth and prosperity, no man has taken a more prominent part than Mr. Dilworth. His career during life has been such as to give encouragement to young men without means, for his present competence has been gained only through his own efforts, and he is now well and favorably known throughout Adams County, where he is successfully occupied in the practice of law, being associated in business with a Mr. Smith, and his son William A. Dilworth. He was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, April 8, 1829, and is a son of Abraham Dilworth, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1793, and died in Rushville, Ill., in 1832, having settled in that State the year before, being a pioneer of Schuyler County. He was a lawyer by profession, having been admitted to the

bar at Steubenville, Ohio, as early as 1829, and for some time he was in partnership with W. A. Richardson in the practice of his profession. The paternal grandfather of Gen. Dilworth, Caleb by name, was a native of Pennsylvania, and died at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, in 1832. Martha (Judkins) Dilworth, the mother of the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Raleigh, N. C., in 1796, and died in Kansas in 1888. Gen. Dilworth began his legal studies at an early day, and in 1848 was admitted to the bar at Lewiston, Ill., where he remained practicing his profession until 1862, when he joined the Federal Army to assist in the preservation of the Union, and went into the service as lieutenant-colonel, commissioned August 27, 1865, of the Eighty-fifth Illinois Infantry; was ordered to Louisville, Ky., and until the close of the war was in the Army of the Cumberland, and participated in the following bloody battles, besides many minor engagements not mentioned: Perryville (Ky.), Stone River, where he was commissioned colonel of the Eighty-fifth Illinois on June 18, 1863; Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and while on the Atlanta campaign was in the battles of Resaca, Rome, Pumpkin Vine and Kenesaw Mountain, after which, November 15, 1864, he was commissioned brevet brigadier-general, and was assigned to the Third Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, afterward taking part in the battle of Peach Tree Creek, and in the campaign ending at Jonesboro, where he was severely wounded in the neck. The winter of 1864 he spent in Chattanooga; then went to Covington, where he remained until hostilities ceased, receiving his discharge in June, 1865. He was severely wounded three times, but fearless in the discharge of his duty, a trusted and faithful commanding officer, he was beloved and respected by all. Upon his return from the war he resumed the practice of law at Lewiston, Ill., but in 1870 removed to Nebraska and located at Lincoln, two years later settling in what was then Phelps County, but still continuing his practice in the above named city. From 1873 to 1877, however, his practice was confined to Phelps County, and in 1874 he was elected district attorney for the Second Nebraska district, which then embraced the two southern tiers of

counties from the Missouri River to the Colorado line. After serving in this capacity two terms, in 1878 he was elected attorney general of the State of Nebraska, discharging the duties of this office also two terms. In the month of January, 1883, he came to Hastings, and has since been a member of the legal firm of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth, well known in Adams and many surrounding counties. Gen. Dilworth has always been a radical Republican, and has ever supported the men and measures of his party. He has been very successful in the practice of his profession, and is now one of the wealthy land holders of the State, being the owner of 2,600 acres of land in Phelps County. November 25, 1853, he wedded Miss Emily Phelps, a native of Missouri, by whom he has a son named William A., a member of the above firm.

Lafayette Dominy, farmer, Hansen, Neb. Mr. Dominy is one of the much respected and esteemed citizens of Adams County, and one of the pioneer settlers of the same, locating on his present farm March 2, 1876. He was born in Brookfield Township, La Salle County, Ill., in 1844, and was the seventh of a family of nine children, the result of the union of Nathaniel and Philinda (Finch) Dominy, natives of New York. The parents were married in their native State, and in 1836 emigrated to La Salle County, Ill., where the father entered land and cultivated the soil. They were early settlers of that State and experienced some of the hardships endured by the pioneers. They came overland from New York, and after reaching this State were obliged to do their marketing at Chicago, when it took five days to make the trip. Mr. Dominy made that State his home until 1880, when he moved to Nebraska and settled in Hansen. His death occurred in November, 1887. His excellent wife still survives him. Grandfather Dominy owned a farm on which was fought a battle of the War of 1812. He was an early settler of La Salle County, where he passed his last days. Lafayette Dominy was early instructed in the mysteries of farm life, and received his education in the schools of La Salle County, Ill. He commenced farming for himself in that county and was married in Brookfield Township, of that county, in November, 1867, to Miss

Sarah A. Smith, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of Morgan and Mary (Kane) Smith, also natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents emigrated to Putman County, Ill., where they remained but a short time, and then moved to La Salle County, of the same State, and settled in Brookfield Township, where the father tilled the soil until his death in 1857. The mother is still living and resides in Jewell County, Kan. Mr. Dominy moved to Adams County, Neb., in 1876 and is now the owner of a good farm of 320 acres, and is also engaged in raising fine thoroughbred short horned cattle. He has a good orchard on his place and is prosperous and contented. He votes with the Republican party and is active in politics. He was township treasurer for some time and assisted in the organization of the townships. Mr. and Mrs. Dominy are members of the Presbyterian Church at Hansen. Their union has been blessed by the birth of six children, three of whom are now living: Charles M., Flora M., died in April, 1879, at the age of four years; Eva N., died in April, 1883, at the age of nearly four years; Edward M., Lewis M., died in May, 1886, at the age of fourteen months, and Arthur L. Mr. Dominy's market for years was at Hastings, but now his marketing is done three-fourths of a mile from his home.

Jesse Doty is a well known agriculturist of Adams County, Neb., and was born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1840, being the eldest child born to John and Eliza (McBride) Doty, and grandson of Jesse Doty, one of the pioneers of Butler County, Ohio. John Doty was born in Ohio about 1812, and his early career was spent as a tiller of the soil, but he is now engaged in the livery business at Oxford. He and wife became the parents of five children: Jesse, Agnes, Aaron, Jane and Charley; but after her death in 1849 he (in 1850) married again, and became the father of five more children: Frank, George, William, David and Ida. He is a Republican in his political views. Jesse Doty, the immediate subject of this sketch, attended the schools of Oxford, and in 1862 enlisted in Company A, Eighty-sixth Ohio Infantry, but after receiving his discharge at the end of three months he, in 1864, again entered the army, this time becoming a mem-

ber of Company B, Fifty-fourth Ohio Infantry. During his term of service he took part in the following engagements: Resaca, the Atlanta campaign, and on December 3, 1864, was taken prisoner at Statesboro, Ga., and for three months was kept in captivity at Florence. After receiving his discharge in 1865 he returned to Ohio and engaged in farming, and was married the same year of his return to Miss Emeline Poyner, a daughter of Jesse M. and Emily (Jones) Poyner, the former born in Georgia and the latter in Ohio. Mrs. Doty was born in the "Buckeye State," in 1842, and by Mr. Doty has become the mother of the following children: Louis E., Homer A. (married to Miss Maud Hileman, of Hastings), Orlia, Spencer V. (who died in 1887), Ira R. and Jesse L. After his marriage Mr. Doty moved to Indiana, but at the end of seven years returned to Ohio, and in 1878 came to Otoe County, Neb., where he was engaged in tilling the soil until 1887, since which time he has been a resident of Adams County. He bought the farm where the present insane asylum is now located, but the same year sold out to the State and purchased his present property, an improved farm of 160 acres. He gives considerable attention to stock raising, and makes a specialty of Poland China hogs. His property has been acquired through honest and persistent endeavor, and his farm is admirably conducted. He is a Republican, a member of the G. A. R., and he and wife are members of the Congregational Church.

William A. Dilworth. A truth that must everywhere be conceded is that keen perception, sound judgment and a determined will, supported by persevering and continuous efforts, will surely result in success in whatever occupation one may be engaged. No young man possessing these qualities need go through the world unknown or poor. He is sure to reach the top, and if, as in the following case, the possessor be honest and moral, he need have no fears for his future. Among the younger members of the legal profession of Adams County, and one of its rising lawyers, is Mr. W. A. Dilworth, a member of the well known law firm of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth. He was born at Lewistown, Ill., October 28, 1854, the only child born to the union of Gen. C. J. and Emily Dilworth. His early boy-

hood days were spent in his native town, where he attended the public schools. In 1870 he came with his parents to Lincoln, and entered the University of Nebraska. In 1877 he began the study of law, continuing until he had attained a proficiency in the legal profession when he was admitted to the bar, in 1880, at Sidney, Neb., and immediately entered upon his chosen calling in Phelps and Dawson Counties, Neb., continuing there for two years. In 1882 he went to the Black Hills, and in connection with James W. Fowler opened a law office at that place, which, however, was discontinued the next year. He then came to Hastings where he organized the firm of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth, which has been continued successfully ever since, and where he has established a reputation, which for a young attorney is very flattering. In 1881 Mr. Dilworth was married, selecting as his life companion Miss Alice Morton, a native of Michigan. This union was blessed with one child, a bright and interesting little girl named Maude. In secret societies, Mr. Dilworth belongs to the Masonic fraternity, is a Knight Templar, K. of P. and Modern Woodmen of America. In his political views he is a staunch Republican, but is too deeply engrossed in his profession to take a very active interest in politics. He is a man of keen observation, great tact and shrewdness, a good lawyer, and enjoys a large and growing clientage, and is a very popular man.

George A. Dreitzler, liveryman, Hastings, Neb. This enterprising business man was born near Warsaw, Ind., on September 27, 1865, and is the son of Jacob H. and Mary (Ertzinger) Dreitzler, the father a native of Germany and now a resident of Nebraska. The mother was born in the United States, and died (in Indiana) when George Dreitzler was but nine years of age. The latter remained in Indiana until twenty-one years of age, and then emigrated to Hastings, Neb., in July, 1887. He worked with his brother at the livery business for four months, and December 7, 1887, he bought his brother out and engaged in the business for himself. This he has since continued. He now has a well stocked livery barn, and holds the patronage of the entire neighborhood. It is situated on Third Street, between Denver and St. Joe Avenues. In politics

Mr. Dreitzler is independent, and supports those men who, in his judgment, are the best and most capable. He has made his own way in life and deserves the credit and respect of all.

William W. Dungan, furniture dealer, Hastings, Neb. Among American industries, that of furniture manufacturing has come to occupy a first place, and our goods are to be found in every foreign market. Of late years the furniture factories of the West have distanced all competitors, and not only do they supply the whole Western continent, but dictate prices in Eastern markets, and control the trade of the South. Mr. Dungan, one of the prominent men of business in Hastings, has been dealing in furniture in that place since 1889, and has a complete line of goods, and makes a specialty of upholstering. He was born in Lawrence County, Pa., on June 7, 1836, and is the son of Thomas H. and Jane (Witherspoon) Dungan. The father was born in what is now West Virginia in 1797, and died in Lawrence County, Pa., in 1872. He was by occupation a farmer. He was elected by the Whigs to represent Lawrence County, Pa., in the Lower House of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. The mother was born in what was then Beaver County, but is now Lawrence County, Pa., in 1803, and died in Lawrence County in 1851. The paternal grandfather, Robert Dungan, was a Virginian by birth, and died in Beaver County when about eighty years of age. He was an uncompromising Abolitionist. Of the eleven children born to his parents, William W. was the seventh in order of birth, and six are now living. He was reared on a farm in Pennsylvania, and was a pupil in his native school, where he received a good practical education. In 1855 Mr. Dungan came west, and lived for a short time at Leavenworth, Kan., after which he went to Jasper County, Iowa, and there he attended and taught school until June, 1861. At that date he enlisted in Company B, Fifth Iowa Infantry, and September, 1863, he was promoted to the rank of captain of Company E, Forty-ninth United States colored troops, serving in that capacity until March 26, 1866, when he was mustered out of service as an efficient officer and a brave soldier. Returning to

Jasper County, Iowa, after the war, he engaged in tilling the soil, and this he carried on until 1873, when he emigrated to Hastings, Neb., and here has since resided. In 1878 he began the real estate business in Hastings, and continued the same until 1889, when he embarked in the furniture business, at which he has been quite successful. He was married on October 15, 1864, to Miss Bell Sturgeon of Jasper County, Iowa, but a native of Lawrence County, Pa., born January 13, 1846. Four children have been the result of this union: Harry D., Mamie W., William H. and Paul B. In politics Mr. Duncan is a Prohibitionist, and at one time represented what was then the Second ward in the city council. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is a pioneer of Hastings.

John P. Duncan is a prosperous grain, stock and coal merchant of Roseland, Neb., and is in partnership with his brother. He was born in Elgin, Ill., September 14, 1845, being a son of P. W. Duncan, a native of Ireland, who came to the United States in 1841 and settled in Illinois, having previously married in Hartford, Conn., Miss Bridget Kingsley, who died when John P. was an infant. The latter grew to manhood in his native State, and after reaching his tenth year was a resident of Savannah, and is principally self educated, the most of his knowledge of books being acquired since reaching years of maturity. He learned the stone mason's trade of his father, and after starting out in life for himself worked at this trade in Illinois up to 1870, coming to Nebraska in May of that year, and settling in Adams County, where he took up a homestead in the southern part of the county, on the Little Blue River, which place he still owns. Many fine improvements were made on this farm, which continued to be his home until 1887, since which time he has been a resident of Roseland, being one of the first business men of the place. He has always held to the principles and supported the men and measures of the Democratic party, and for a number of years has held the position of supervisor of Silver Lake Township, and in 1888 was elected in Roseland Township for the same position. He was married in Iowa in 1878, and wedded his second

wife in Illinois in 1883, her maiden name being Bridget Loughran. A daughter blessed his first marriage, named Frances, and his second union has resulted in the birth of four children: Stephen P., Mary E., Anna and John William. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan are members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Eben L. Dutton, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein, Neb. Prominent among the esteemed and enterprising agriculturists of the county stands the name of Mr. Eben L. Dutton, who was born in the village of Gray, Cumberland County, Me., on June 19, 1844, and who is the son of Henry Dutton, a native of the same State and county. Henry Dutton was reared there and there married Miss Catherine M. Dolley, who was also a native of that State and county. He was a builder and contractor, and resided in Cumberland County all his life, his death occurring in November, 1881, at the age of sixty-four. The mother is still living and resides on the old homestead. Eben L. Dutton passed his boyhood days in his native county, and at the age of eighteen he began learning the mason trade, which occupied his attention for three years. He then went to Boston and was engaged in contracting and building for about three years, after which, in 1864, he came west to Illinois, located in Henry County, and was there interested with his brother in farming for two years. From there he went to Chicago and worked at his trade for three years, after which he emigrated to Nebraska in the spring of 1872, located in Adams County, six miles northwest of Juniata, and there tilled the soil. He improved three farms in Adams County, and in the fall of 1885 settled on his present tract of land, which he has improved and cultivated. He moved to Kenesaw in the spring of 1882, engaged in the hardware business, which he continued for three years, then sold out and moved to his present farm. He is the owner of 400 acres of land, all under a good state of cultivation, has a comfortable residence, good out-buildings, and is one of the prosperous men of the county. He rents some of his land, but still controls 120 acres near Kenesaw, and this year he has 65 acres in corn and 65 acres in small grain. In his political views Mr. Dutton affiliates with the Republican party, and has ever voted with the same.

He has held the office of township treasurer, also township supervisor for one or more terms, and has served as a member of the school board ten consecutive years. He was commissioned in the Nebraska National Guards as follows: First lieutenant Mounted Infantry, March 13, 1878; second lieutenant of infantry, June 9, 1882, and as captain August 9, 1884. He is deeply interested in educational matters, and is a liberal supporter of all worthy movements. He was married in Adams County, Neb., in May, 1875, to Miss Sylvia E. Thompson, a native of the Buckeye State, but who was reared and educated in Iowa. The sketch of her father, A. S. Thompson, appears elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Dutton has been born one daughter, Lottie. Mr. Dutton is a Master Mason, and a man much esteemed and respected.

Levi Eddy, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Eddy is one of the pioneer settlers of Adams County, Neb., locating on Section 20, West Blue Township, on October 25, 1872, and is one of the progressive, intelligent and respected citizens of this community. He was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., in 1835, and was the eldest of eleven children born to the union of John and Nancy (Wheeler) Eddy, natives of Genesee County, N. Y. The father was married in his native State, was a farmer, and in 1853 moved to Walworth County, Wis., where he opened up a farm. During the war he moved to Rock County, Wis., and there tilled the soil until October, 1866, when he moved to Eureka, Kan., and died near Elk Falls of that State in 1879. The mother died at Cherryvale, Kan., in 1884. Levi Eddy was educated in the schools of New York, and under the training and influence of his father he was led to follow agricultural pursuits, which has been his chief occupation through life. He moved with his parents to Walworth County, Wis., in 1853, and from there, in 1859, to Bureau County, Ill., where he engaged as a farm laborer. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Lee County, Ill., in Company C, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, and was assigned to the Western Department. He was in the battle of Nashville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and in many skirmishes. He received a

wound at Nashville, Tenn., on December 16, 1864, but returned to service in the same year, and was through the entire service. He was honorably discharged at Camp Butler, Ill., on November 4, 1865, returned to Bureau County, Ill., thence to Rock County, Wis., and was married in Walworth County, Wis., in 1866, to Miss Isadore Wilkins, a native of Walworth County, Wis., and the daughter of James and Hannah (Ferguson) Wilkins, natives of New Jersey. About 1840 her parents moved to Walworth County, Wis., being pioneers of that county, and there the father followed tilling the soil. He is still living, is eighty-four years of age, but the mother died in Wisconsin in 1877. After his marriage Mr. Eddy cultivated the soil in Wisconsin until coming to Nebraska in 1872, and here entered 160 acres of land which he immediately commenced to improve, erecting a good house and excellent out buildings. He raises considerable stock, and is one of the wide-awake farmers of the county. He is not active in politics, but votes with the Republican party; is a member of the school board, being moderator, and has been road supervisor for years. He was here at the organization of the precincts, first in Denver precinct, then Mr. Eddy took an active part in forming West Blue precinct, and later West Blue Township. Socially he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and Mrs. Eddy is a member of the Methodist Church. To their happy union have been born ten children, eight of whom are now living: Ida (now Mrs. Ulmer, of Hastings), Rosa (died December 31, 1887, at the age of nineteen years), Warren Alice, Seba (died in 1885 at the age of eleven years), Dora, James, Ruth, Ira and Pearl. At the time Mr. Eddy built in Adams County there was no settlement between his place and Hastings, a distance of five miles, and the latter place was hardly a hamlet, containing one small wooden building with a number of sod cabins. Mr. Eddy has seen the complete development of the country, being one of the oldest settlers in West Blue Township, and has always taken an active part in furthering all laudable enterprises for the good of the same.

Gordon H. Edgerton, one of the firm of Humphrey & Edgerton, owes his nativity to Essex County, N. Y., where his birth occurred May 10,

1842, and is one of the prominent men of Hastings. His parents, Jonah and Permelia (Benedict) Edgerton, were natives respectively of New York and Vermont, and removed to Illinois where they settled in Knox County, in 1845. Both died in Illinois, in February, 1867, at the age of fifty-eight and forty-eight years, respectively. Of the nine children born to their union, five are still living, and Gordon H. is the eldest. One brother, Rollin, was a soldier in the late war, was taken prisoner at the battle of Murfreesboro, and was an inmate of Libby and Andersonville prisons for some time. After his liberation he started home and died at Annapolis, Md. Gordon H. Edgerton attended the public schools of Knox County, Ill., and later entered an academy at Andover, Ill. He then taught school for about three winters, and in January, 1865, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served five months, being discharged at the close of the war. Returning home he remained there until the spring of 1866, when he went to Colorado, and there remained until 1871, when he emigrated to Adams County, Neb. He first settled in Hanover Township, when there was but one family in the same, took a homestead and lived there until November, 1889, when he removed to Hastings. He is now the owner of 640 acres of land in Hanover Township, all well improved and cultivated. On October 26, 1889, he bought one-half interest in the Queen City Roller Mills and has been very successful. He is a practical and thorough man of business, being upright in all his transactions and highly esteemed both far and near. His marriage with Miss Elva Bird was celebrated in March, 1876, and they are the parents of three children: Arthur, Goldie and Fay. In politics Mr. Edgerton is a Republican, and for two years was a county commissioner of Adams County. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is one of the leading farmers of the county.

H. Fred Einspahr, farmer, Kenesaw, Neb. There are many citizens of foreign birth represented within the pages of this volume, but none are more deserving of mention than Mr. Einspahr, who is not only one of the most substantial men of the county, but one whose career in life has been of particular

interest. Mr. Einspahr was born in the province of North Dithmarschen, Holstein, Germany, on December 22, 1840, and is the son of Hans H. and Wiebke (Hansen) Einspahr, both natives of Holstein. The parents emigrated to America in 1863, locating near Chicago, Ill., but later, in 1871, moved to that city and there resided until 1885, when they removed to Adams County, Neb. There they still reside, and are seventy-six and seventy-eight years of age, respectively. H. Fred Einspahr attended the schools of his native country, where the children were required to attend eight hours each day, six hours during the day time, and two hours in the evening at the night school. At the age of fourteen years he was apprenticed to a merchant, with whom he remained four years. He then began the life of a sailor, and before leaving the sea had sailed in the German, English and American merchant marines. He visited the "land of the midnight sun," made voyages to Iceland and North Cape and the West Indies. While a sailor on the American merchantman "Shymal of Boston" in 1862, he went on a voyage to the Mediterranean Sea, and was there pursued by the Confederate cruiser "Sumter," commanded by Capt. Semmes, but escaped by seeking refuge in the harbor of Gibraltar. In 1862 he landed in America, and came westward to Chicago to visit his relatives there. He soon determined to become a citizen of the United States, and signalized his devotion to his chosen country by at once joining the American navy, serving on the "St. Clair" under the command of Commodore Porter. He was present at the bombardment of Fort Donelson in 1863, and was in many other engagements. After the termination of hostilities he returned to Chicago, and for several years was engaged in various enterprises in and near the city. He followed agricultural pursuits in Whiteside County, Ill., for three years, and in 1883 he came to Adams County, Neb., and located on his present land, which he had purchased in 1876. He now owns 440 acres on Section 16, Wanda Township, and has one of the finest farms in this section of the State. In 1864 he married Miss Lena Einspahr, and this union has been blessed by the birth of ten children: Bertha (now Mrs. Fred Beirow), John W., Peter H.,

Amelia (now Mrs. Frank Lukow), Herman G., Annie, Hans F., Christian C., Gustav H. and Otto C. C. The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Politically Mr. Einspahr is a staunch Republican. In 1888 he was elected county supervisor, and was re-elected in 1889. He has also served as justice of the peace, and is a member of the board of education.

Manford L. Elsmore, president of Hastings board of trade, manager for C. W. Dietz Lumber Company, and secretary and treasurer of Hastings Dry Pressed Brick Company, was born in Machias, Me., on September 8, 1862, and is the son of Hiram P. and Martha J. (Vance) Elsmore, natives of Maine. The father is now fifty-four years of age, has spent his life in the lumber trade, and is now a resident of Eau Claire, Wis. Mrs. Elsmore is forty-nine years of age. The family removed to Michigan in 1867 and in 1875 to Eau Claire, Wis. Manford L. Elsmore, the second eldest of five children born to his parents, first attended the public schools and later became a student at the Wesleyan M. E. Seminary, at Eau Claire, Wis., from which institution he graduated in 1880. Mr. Elsmore comes from a long line of lumber men, and his first experience in this business was with his father in the woods of Wisconsin, in getting out the lumber and surveying timber lands. He remained with his father until 1883, when he entered the employ of the North Wisconsin Lumber Company, at Hayward, Wis., in the capacity of book keeper, and continued in their employ until the fall of 1885, part of the time as book-keeper and later as salesman. He came to Hastings in the fall of the last mentioned year, established the C. W. Dietz Lumber Company, and in the spring of 1888, in partnership with H. B. Knowlton, they bought the interest of the Hastings Dry Pressed Brick & Tile Company and established that company. Their works are located at Brickton, near Hastings, and they employ from thirty to sixty men. The production of 1889 amounted to about 5,000,000 brick. In the spring of 1889 Mr. Elsmore was elected president of the Hastings board of trade, of which he has been a member and director since its organization. He is a progressive, and enterprising business man of Hastings, and in politics is a Republican.

Rev. John Edward English, a distinguished member of the Catholic clergy, and rector of St. Cecelia's Church, of Hastings, was born at Kenosha, Wis., on April 14, 1855, and is the son of Thomas and Ann (Cootey) English, natives of Ireland. The parents came to the United States in early childhood, and as early as 1837 they settled in Chicago. They subsequently removed to Kenosha, Wis., where Mr. English is now engaged in business. He is about sixty-five years of age. Rev. John E. English, the second eldest son, received the rudiments of an education in the public schools of Kenosha, from which he graduated at the age of sixteen years. He then spent two years at Prairie du Chien College, Wis., and graduated from that institution at the age of eighteen years, afterward entering the University of Baltimore, from which he graduated with the degree of B. A. at the age of nineteen years. One year later he received the degree of M. A. On June 7, 1879, he was ordained a priest at the University of Niagara for the Omaha diocese, and on July 3, 1879, he came to Omaha. His first mission was at North Platte, Neb., his first territory embracing all of Western Nebraska. After a residence of two months at North Platte he was called to Omaha, and for five years was rector of the Cathedral under Bishop O'Conner. In October, 1884, he went to Exeter, Neb., where he remained until July 20, 1888, when he came to Hastings. Here he re-organized the church, and was a leading spirit and superintendent in the erection of the Sisters of Visitation building. He is well known as one of the best organizers in the West, is untiring in his efforts, and is popular as a priest and citizen.

J. G. Evans, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. In this day too much can not be said in praise of those who were determined enough to face the privations and dangers of a new country in order that it might be reclaimed from its primitive condition. In this work it is not desired to omit the name of Mr. Evans, who emigrated to Adams County, Neb., in 1879, and located in Silver Lake Township. He was originally from Lancaster, Pa., where his birth occurred in 1857, and is the second of a family of eight children, four now living, born to John and Maria (Grabill) Evans, natives of

the Keystone State. The father was a tailor and followed his trade in his native State until 1875, when he came to Nebraska, purchased 160 acres of land in Roseland Township, and in 1879 moved to Adams County, Neb., where he and wife now reside. J. G. Evans assisted his father on the farm and received his education in the schools of Lancaster County, Pa. He moved with his parents to Adams County, Neb., and there began farming for himself, and in 1881 was married in that county to Miss Elizabeth B. Hargleroad, a native of Franklin County, Pa., and the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Brough) Hargleroad, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Hargleroad followed farming in his native State, and in 1875 emigrated to Adams County, Neb., settling in Cottonwood Township, where he homesteaded 160 acres. He now resides on that land, which he has greatly improved, but the mother died in July, 1882. J. G. Evans tilled the soil in Silver Lake Township until June, 1885, when he bought 160 acres of improved land, one of the first settled farms of the county. He raises some stock. He is not active in politics, but votes with the Republican party. To his marriage have been born three children: Daisy, John Raymond and Jacob Earl.

John Farner, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. This gentleman owes his nativity to Pickaway County, Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1845, and where he received his education. In May, 1861, at the first call for troops, he enlisted in Company B, Thirteenth Ohio Infantry, and ranked as a non-commissioned officer. He was the youngest soldier in his company, and his brother George was a member of the same company. John Farner participated in the following battles: Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Ky., Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and others. He was one of the brave men who charged in the center and broke the rebel ranks at the last named fight. During the winter of 1863-64, he was at Knoxville, Tenn., but later moved from that point to Ringgold, Ga., thence to Resaca, where his brother was killed in 1864, from there to Dallas, Ga., and Kenesaw Mountain. Mr. Farner enlisted in May, 1861, and reached home in July, 1864, the term of enlistment being three years. During that time he was away from his post only

about three weeks, and was then on the sick list. Returning from the war he engaged in farming and has followed this pursuit since. He was married in 1872 to Miss Caroline M. Scroggin, daughter of Alfred and Sarah Scroggin, natives and old residents of Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Farner have been born four children: Mary J., Bertha, Grace and Carl E. Mr. Farner emigrated to Blaine Township, Adams County, Neb., in 1874, and has 160 acres of good land all under cultivation. He raises a good grade of stock, and is prominently identified with the farming and stock raising interests of the county. He has been a member of the school board of District No. 17, for twelve years, is interested in school matters and is determined to give his children every advantage for a good education. He was township clerk for the first two years after the organization, has held the office of justice of the peace two years, and is now serving his second term as township treasurer. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party, and he and Mrs. Farner are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Being one of the old settlers of Adams County, Mr. Farner has witnessed many and rapid changes in the same since his residence here, and has aided materially in all laudable purposes. Mr. Farner is the third of a large family born to the union of Samuel and Elizabeth (Emert) Farner, the father a native of Pennsylvania, born about 1813. He was a son of David Farner, also of Pennsylvania. Samuel Farner followed agricultural pursuits and was successful in this occupation. Both he and wife were members of the Evangelical Church. Their children were named George, Solomon, John, Rebecca, Daniel, who enlisted in the army in Ohio, was killed at the battle of Resaca, Ga., when fifteen years of age. George and Solomon were both in the service, the latter receiving a gunshot wound in the arm. The remainder of the children are: Benjamin F., Susannah Mary, Louis W., Cyrus W., Samuel and Clara J. The father died in 1888, and his wife previous to this, in 1884. They were buried at Lincoln, Logan County, Ill.

Solomon Favinger. From the brief sketch here given of the life of Mr. Favinger it will be seen that his days have been devoted to hard labor, and dur-

ing the years that he has pursued the even tenor of his way" he has accumulated sufficient means to keep himself and family in comfort, if not in luxury, the rest of their days. Born in Columbiana County, Ohio, February 12, 1847, he is a son of Abraham and Hannah (Spair) Favinger, who were native Pennsylvanians, but after their marriage moved to Ohio, thence to Noble County, Ind., where they spent the rest of their days, the father dying about 1873, and the mother a few years later. Solomon remained with his parents in Noble County until he reached manhood, but started out in life for himself in the State of Wisconsin, whither he went in 1864, and for a period of fifteen years made his home in Outagamie County, being engaged in surveying, locating and dealing in real estate. In the fall of 1879 he removed to Nebraska and purchased the farm on which he is now residing. By subsequent purchases his land now amounts to 495 acres, all of which is exceedingly fertile and nearly all well tilled. He has about 120 acres in corn, ninety acres in barley, forty acres in wheat, and sixty acres in oats, besides the land he has rented out. He has a new two-story residence, fair out buildings, and a good young orchard. In his political views he is a Republican, and has held some local offices in the township. He was married in Outagamie County, Wis., December 26, 1870, to Miss Louisa Berthier, a daughter of John Berthier, and by her has a family of five children: Edna May, Hubert F., Charles N., Cora A., and Blanche A. Mr. and Mrs. Favinger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

James B. Filbert, editor and publisher of the Adams County Tribune, Kenesaw, Neb. Generally age and experience are essential to success and promotion, but in the example before us appears a young man who has risen without any especial fortuitous circumstance, to the head of one of the representative papers of Adams County; and although he has but recently taken charge of this paper, The Adams County Tribune, his successful management of the same warrants the assertion that under his control and conduct, the paper is destined to exert an influence which shall be felt in literary circles in this vicinity. Mr. Filbert is about thirty years of

age, having been born in Greene County, Ind., April 12, 1860, and is the son of Joel and Ruth (Bowen) Filbert, both natives of Indiana, and descendants of prominent families there. The Filbert family is of English extraction, the ancestors coming to America and settling in Virginia about 1607. James B. Filbert grew to manhood in his native State, and in 1879 came to Nebraska where, during 1880 and 1881, he was principal of the public schools at Weeping Water and Louisville, in the meantime keeping up his studies in the State University. He began the study of law in 1884 under the instruction of E. H. Wooley, of Weeping Water, and later with Senator Taggart, of Hastings, and was admitted to the bar in 1886, after which he began practicing. In 1886 he came to Kenesaw, and for upwards of three years was proprietor of the Commercial Hotel there. In 1888 he purchased the Kenesaw Times, and changing the name to the Adams County Tribune, has since edited and published the same. On May 16, 1885, he married Miss Dorothea Schluntz, a native of Nebraska, and the result has been two children. Mr. Filbert is a Republican in his political views.

Rev. J. Fleming, Ayr, Neb. Rev. J. Fleming, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Adams County, and a man who for many years has been closely identified with the advancement and growth of Christianity in the community as an active, earnest minister of the gospel, is one of the honored pioneers of this portion of Nebraska. A Pennsylvanian by birth, he was born in Mifflin County on April 17, 1807, and is the second in a family of seven children born to the union of John and Mary (McEwen) Fleming. The father was born in 1763 in Pennsylvania, and was a farmer by occupation. He married Miss McEwen in 1805, and to them were born these children: Henry, now living in Wisconsin; Rev. J., Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Jane, William M. and Sarah. The father was quite active in politics, was a Republican, and voted for John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. He and his wife both died in Pennsylvania, he in 1832 and she in 1848. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church. The Flemings and McEwens were of Scotch-Irish descent. John Fleming was a soldier

in the War of 1812, and was under Commodore Perry. His father, John Fleming, was born in Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, Robert Fleming, was a native of Ireland, who came to America and settled with his parents in Pennsylvania in the reign of King George III. Rev. J. Fleming's early life was spent in Pennsylvania, where his ancestors for a number of generations had lived before him. He is a graduate of Jefferson College, and is also a graduate of the Princeton Theological Seminary. He started in his ministerial duties in 1832, and took a mission among the Indians in Indian Territory. He learned their language, had books printed in the same, and was among the Muskages for about six years. From 1839 up to 1850 he was pastor of Middle Tuscarora and Fairfield, in Juniata County, and from the last named date to 1875, he was missionary at Mendota, La Salle County, Ill. From 1875 to the present time he has been located in Adams County, Neb., and is a resident of Ayr. He married in 1832 Miss Margaret L. Scudder, daughter of Dr. Scudder, of Princeton, N. J., and the fruit of this union was one child, Mary M. (now Mrs. O. C. Rogers, residing in Ayr Township, Adams County). Mrs. Fleming died in the Indian Territory in 1839, and in 1844 Mr. Fleming took for his second wife Miss Rebecca C. Patterson, daughter of James Patterson, Esq., of Pennsylvania. To this second union have been born eight children, four sons and four daughters: Anna J. (died in 1885), Thomas C., Henry M., Agnes H. (died in 1867), Ada R., John A. J., Sarah E. and William M. Mr. Fleming has traveled very extensively over the country, and is a man of remarkable energy and bravery, kind and gentle to all, and has done much for the church. For years no man has toiled harder to preach Christ than he. He has established many churches in the State of Illinois, a number in the State of Nebraska, and is one of the oldest ministers in the last named State. He settled in Ayr in 1877 with his family, but had visited the county every year for some time before he located here. He built a hotel at Ayr in 1879, which was the second building erected in the town.

Judge James H. Fleming has been a resident of Adams County, Neb., for the past twelve years. He

comes of Irish stock, as both his parents, William and Jane (Cullen) Fleming, were born in the "Emerald Isle," the former's birth occurring in 1816, and the latter's in 1818. In the year 1841 William Fleming first set foot on American soil, and until 1845 he was a resident of Pennsylvania, after which he removed to Illinois, and now resides in Iroquois County of that State. Judge Fleming is the second of his eight children, and was born in La Salle County, Ill., April 3, 1847, and from his earliest recollections his time was given to the monotonous duties of farm life. After attending the district schools for a sufficient length of time he entered Wheaton College, which institution he attended three and one-half years. He afterward began the study of law in the office of Charles Blanchard, at Ottawa, Ill., and was admitted to the bar at Springfield in 1876. Two years later he came to Hastings, Neb., and entered upon a career of activity and usefulness, and his reputation as a lawyer has become assured. Politically he has always been a Republican, and on this ticket was elected, in 1883, to the position of county judge; was re-elected in 1885, receiving the same honors in 1887, his term of office expiring January 9, 1890, when he returned to the practice of his profession. All through this long term of official life he has preserved his popularity, and has given to the county clean and faithful service, so that when he retired from the bench there was reason to view his official career with satisfaction and pride. He has shown his approval of secret organizations by becoming a member of Hastings Lodge No. 50, I. O. O. F., and Enterprise Encampment No. 29, and also belongs to the A. O. U. W. July 31, 1870, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Cowles, a native of Illinois, born March 1, 1858, a daughter of Chauncey H. and Margaret (Burtiss) Cowles, and two children have blessed their union: William A. (born October 1, 1880) and Henry C. (born September 6, 1887).

T. C. Fleming, farmer and stockman, Ayr, Neb. As might naturally be expected, mention is made in the present work of many citizens of Adams County now prominent in their different callings who were natives of Pennsylvania, but none more highly esteemed or respected than T. C. Fleming. His

birth occurred in Mifflin in 1848, and he is the son of Rev. John and Rebecca (Patterson) Fleming. [See sketch of parents on a previous page of this volume.] T. C. Fleming attended the schools of La Salle County, Ill., until sixteen years of age, when he went to an uncle in Pennsylvania, J. K. Patterson, to learn the tanner's trade. After remaining there one year he returned to Illinois, and in 1864, filled with patriotic ambition, he enlisted in Company F, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was in a number of the principal engagements—Spring Hill, Tenn.; Franklin and Nashville. He received a gunshot wound in the right shoulder at the battle of Franklin, was disabled for a short time, and then again went into active service. He was discharged in November, 1865, after which he returned to Illinois, and was here engaged in business for three years. He selected as his companion in life Miss Esther A. Cornell, daughter of Harvey Cornell, of Lee County, Ill., and was married to her in 1869, after which he tilled the soil for two years in that State. In 1871 he emigrated to Nebraska and took up about 160 acres of land, which he has successfully cultivated since. He came to this State in company with O. C. Rogers when all was wild and unbroken, when deer and buffalo were numerous; and he had the sincere pleasure of bringing down many of them. Wolves were also very plentiful. There was no settlement north of Spring Ranch, which is fourteen miles down the river, and there was no settlement between his place and the Republican River. He immediately went to work to improve his land, erected a log house; and the first shingles to cover the roof of any house in the county were put on the same. The country commenced to settle up, and in a few years they had all the neighbors they wanted. Mr. Fleming has a fine farm in Zero Township, also 240 acres in Ayr Township, and is the owner of about 600 or 700 acres in all. At present he is engaged in the dairy business, and has been active in making cheese. He held the office of surveyor at an early day, has been on the school board a number of times, and is deeply interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches; and, in fact, has done as much for the development and improvement of the county as any man in it.

Politically Mr. Fleming's vote is cast with the Republican party. His marriage has been blessed by the birth of four children: Liew (a native of Illinois, who was but a year old when his parents moved to Nebraska, but is now married and resides at Ayr), Ross, Harvey and Agnes.

M. J. Fouts, farmer. This gentleman was born in Hancock, Ill., in 1848, and is the eldest in a family of seven children born to the union of Daniel Perry and Emaline Perry Fouts, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Maine. The father went to Illinois when a young man, was there married, and in 1852 went overland to California, driving three yoke of oxen. He made a settlement at Cloverdale, Cal., and in 1879 went to Seattle, Wash., where he now resides. His wife died in California in 1877. M. J. Fouts was reared to farm life until fifteen years of age, and in 1863 enlisted at Virginia City, Nev., in the First Nevada Cavalry, which was mustered into service at Churchill, Nev. Upon being sent to Camp Douglas, Utah Ter., he remained there engaged in the Indian warfare. He was in service for two years and eight months, and was honorably discharged at Camp Douglas, Utah Ter., in 1866. He then came to Cheyenne, where for a number of years he was engaged in teaming from that city to Salt Lake, and thus has been on the plains from early boyhood, seeing frontier life in all its phases. He commenced farming for himself on his present property at an early day, has hunted buffalo all over Adams County, and has trapped all over this vicinity. In his early farming days Mr. Fouts was obliged to go sixty miles to get his plows sharpened. He was married in Adams County, Neb., in January, 1876, to Miss Maria Wiswell, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, and the daughter of G. W. and Maria (Watson) Wiswell, natives of Vermont and Ireland, respectively. Her parents were married in Wisconsin, and the father was a railroad engineer on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern, running from St. Louis to Pilot Knob. In 1869 he came to Thayer County, Neb., entered land, but later went to work for the Union Pacific, running from Rawlins and Green River. The parents are both living at the present day, the mother on the homestead and the father in

Oregon. After his marriage Mr. Fouts began farming on his present property, which consists of 160 acres under cultivation. He was among the first to erect a frame house in the township. He is not active in politics, but votes with the Democratic party, although in local matters he votes for the best interests of the county. He is a member of the G. A. R. Mr. Fouts has seen the entire growth of the county, and has assisted in all laudable enterprises for the good of the same. At the time of settlement there were no railroads nor towns, but now the country is thickly populated. He was a great hunter for many years, and continued this pursuit up to the time he was married. He is deeply interested in educational matters and assisted in organizing the school district. To his marriage have been born six children: Henry Ashley, Frances Grace, Laura Ellen, Daniel Wolf and Don Carl (twins) and Nora Irene.

F. M. Frink, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. One of the young but successful agriculturists of Adams County is he whose name appears above, and who has borne an influential part in promoting the various interests of the county since 1874, when he first located here. He was born in New York, in 1852, and is the second of a family of five children born to the union of Sewell and Mariah (Tilley) Frink, natives respectively of Connecticut and England. The father was engaged in farming in Illinois, and there he remained until 1856 when he moved to La Salle County, Ill., where he continued that occupation. In 1880 he moved to Adams County, Neb., and there he and his wife now reside. F. M. Frink was reared to farm labor and received his education in the schools of La Salle County. In 1874 he came to Adams County, Neb., purchased 160 acres of prairie land and commenced improving the same. He was married in Mills County, Iowa, in 1878, to Miss Florence Mellinger, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Henry Mellinger, a native also of Ohio. Mr. Mellinger moved to Michigan, thence to Iowa and from there to Missouri, where he now resides. The mother died years ago. After his marriage Mr. Frink settled on the farm where he now lives, and engaged in raising corn and oats. He is also interested in raising a

good grade of Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs. In his political views Mr. Frink votes independently. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and takes a deep interest in all matters relating to the good of the county. He is active in school matters, and has given his children good educational advantages. His children are named as follows: Ray M., Earl M., Fred and Albert.

H. A. Fyler, merchant, of Hastings. As a man of business Mr. Fyler's name and fame is co-extensive with Adams County and the surrounding country. Every step of his financial and commercial career has been illustrated with acts of liberality, and with every step taken by the county towards higher development he has been closely identified. He possesses all the attributes necessary for a man of business, and especially a merchant, for the successful merchant, like the artist or poet, is born, not made. Possessing taste, discrimination and an aptitude for correctly reading human nature, he has been very successful and stands on a sound basis among the business men of Hastings, by whom he is regarded as one of the pillars of the city. He was born on a farm near Syracuse, Onondaga County, N. Y., January 31, 1848, being a son of Alfred and Ruth (Gaylord) Fyler, and at the early age of twelve years was compelled to take up the battle of life for himself, and for this purpose left home and went to Michigan, where for a number of years he spent the summer months in clerking for a small salary, and in the winter attended school. He continued thus to live until eighteen years of age, and by strict economy had contrived to save enough of his earnings to defray his expenses at a first-class commercial college for one term. At the end of this time he returned to his former position, where he remained five years longer, then accepted a position as commercial traveler, and for sixteen years was on the road, representing during this time some of the leading wholesale houses in New York City, Chicago and Boston. In 1878 he engaged in the dry goods business at Three Rivers, Mich., taking as a partner Charles Starr, of that place, but for five years longer continued to travel, Mr. Starr conducting the store at Three Rivers. This enterprise proved a success, and at the end of the five years Mr. Fyler came to

Hastings, Neb., and in the spring of 1886 opened a large dry goods store, his store building being erected under his own personal supervision, and in dimensions being 44x135 feet. His stock comprises the best goods to be found in the New York market, is of the latest style and is disposed of at very reasonable prices, and his is an establishment in which the people of Hastings feel much pride, for it is one of the most extensive of the kind in the West, and with the exception of Omaha is the finest in the State. The office work and accounting are in charge of H. A. Chapman, and he reports a business of \$175,000 done during the year 1889. J. H. Beifuss has the management of the dress goods department, and is an artist in store and window decorating, and both these gentlemen have been in Mr. Fyler's employ since the business was established. He also has fifty-seven other employees. His business success has been remarkable, and the confidence reposed in him by the people, and the interest he takes in the advancement and welfare of Hastings and Adams County, are rarely equalled at the present day. He has always been a Republican in politics, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity. On June 12, 1883, he was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Arnold, of White Pigeon, Mich., a daughter of Oliver Arnold.

Edward F. Gettle is a proper representative of the energetic young business men of Juniata, which element has done and is doing so much for the advancement of the material interests of the place, and is one of the foremost hardware merchants of the county. He was born in Michigan in 1857, and is the only child of John H. and Adelaide (Cutter) Gettle, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and New York, the former a tailor by occupation. In 1860, they removed to the State of Illinois, and here the father still resides, the mother having died in 1883. The former served three years in the Army of the Cumberland in the late Civil War, and was a true and trusty soldier to the cause he espoused. Edward F. Gettle was reared in town and attended the public schools until he attained his fifteenth year, at which time he dropped his books to learn the tinner's trade in the town of Lena, working as an apprentice for three years. He then followed his

trade in various places for a year or two, and the year 1879 found him in Juniata, Neb., which place has since been his home. He first worked for a Mr. Pickard for a period of three years, and after spending a short time in Kansas, he returned to Nebraska and worked one year in Hastings, after which he established his present business. He carries a full stock of shelf and heavy hardware, and manufactures a great deal of his own tinware, his stock of goods being valued at \$3,500. He is a Mason, belonging to Juniata Lodge No. 42, and is also a member of James Laird Camp, Sons of Veterans. Although not an active politician he was elected, in the fall of 1888, to the office of township supervisor, and was re-elected in the fall of 1889. In 1882 he was married to Miss Ada D. Allen, a daughter of Col. E. M. Allen, and by her has two children: John Edwin and Fannie A.

John C. Giddings is a representative agriculturist of Adams County, Neb., and acquired the principal part of his knowledge of the calling from his father, Rev. Uriah J. Giddings, who, in addition to being a tiller of the soil for some time, was a Methodist Episcopal minister. The latter was married to Miss Amanda Stafford, a daughter of Jonathan Stafford, their union taking place in 1838, and by her he became the father of eight children: Moses, residing in California; Sophronia (Mrs. Dressback, of Lanark, Ill.), William (in Hale, Jones County, Iowa), Mary (Mrs. Chase, of Chicago, Ill.), John C., Frank (living in Hale, Iowa), Lucy (Mrs. Shannon, of Bloomington, Ill.), and Fred (who died in 1857). Rev. Giddings was born in New Hampshire, being a son of Fetus Giddings, of Connecticut, but afterward moved to Pennsylvania with his parents, and spent the early part of his life in that State. He settled in Warren County, Ill., in 1836, and for five years followed farming, after which he entered the ministry, becoming a member of the Canton, Ill., conference, and was engaged in preaching the Gospel the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1883, and his wife's in 1858. He was first an old line Whig in politics, but later became a Republican. After the death of his first wife he married Martha E. Rose, daughter of Matthias Rose, of Illinois, and by her reared a son and daugh-

ter: Frederick (at Normal, Ill.), and Josephine (Mrs. Jones). John C. Giddings, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Kickapoo County, Ill., in 1849, and was the fifth child born to his father's first union. His school days were spent in his native State, and in 1863 he started out to fight the battle of life for himself, and farming has been his principal occupation ever since. He was married in Rock Island County, Ill., in 1872, to Livona C. Phillee, a daughter of Addison N. and Mary (Rosenberg) Phillee, and by her has the following family of children: Clarence, Charles, Jennie, Frank and Emmet. After farming in Illinois until 1880, he worked in the lime kilns of Port Byron, Ill., for two years, after which he came to Adams County, Neb., and purchased eighty acres of land, which he has since increased to 160 acres. His land was perfectly wild at the time of his purchase, but he now has it well improved and stocked and makes a specialty of raising short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs. Like the majority of Adams County's citizens he is public spirited, and assists all good works, not only by his influence but also financially. He is a Republican in his political views, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and attend services at Ayr.

J. Goding, farmer and stock raiser, Pauline, Neb. The name that heads this sketch is that of one of the well known residents of Little Blue Township, who, like many other settlers of the county, came originally from Illinois, where his birth occurred (in Adams County) in 1840. His parents, Parker and Laura (Ross) Goding, were natives of Maine, and were married in that State in 1837. From there they moved to Adams County, Ill., settled on a farm and there resided until 1856, when they moved to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where the father was engaged in merchandising at Warren. He died in 1867, and his wife in 1879. Of the four children born to their union, Henry is baggage master at Warren, Ill., J. is our subject, Marcellus resides in California, and Luther, who started west in 1878, was murdered at Council Bluffs, Iowa. J. Goding's youthful days were passed in assisting on the home place, and in attending the common schools of Adams County, Ill. Later he attended

school at Warren, and there finished his education. At the age of nineteen years he started for Pike's Peak, going overland, and in 1859 came to Nebraska, and thence to Galveston, Tex. From there he went to New Orleans and back to Warren by the Mississippi River, traveling 3,000 miles that year. Later he commenced tilling the soil in Illinois, and in 1862 was married in Jo Daviess County, of that State, to Miss Sarah Ann Conley, a native of Oneida County, N. Y., and the daughter of James and Sarah (Loveland) Conley, the father a native of Ireland, and the mother of New York. Mr. Conley was a farmer by occupation and in 1861, at the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in the Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, but on account of failing health was discharged at Fort Donelson, and returned to Illinois. He came to Nebraska in 1873, settled in Adams County, Little Blue Township, and there his death occurred. The mother died some years ago. Mr. Goding tilled the soil in Illinois until 1873, when he came to Nebraska, entered eighty acres of land, erected at first a sod house, and later a good frame building. Hastings was then a small hamlet, and Juniata was the county seat. Mr. Goding had to go to Hebron to mill, a distance of sixty miles. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party; has been township constable for one year, and has also filled the office of road supervisor. He is a member of the school board, and takes an active interest in educational matters. To his marriage have been born seven living children: Laura, now Mrs. Parkins, of Pauline; Henry, married and resides near by; John, resides in Hastings; Eva, now Mrs. Smith, of this township; Jonas, Mattie and Luther. Mr. Goding experienced the grasshopper raids of 1874, and lost his team; but in spite of all drawbacks, he has been quite successful.

John Gordon, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. The subject of this sketch, well and favorably known to a host of acquaintances in this community, was born in Scotland in 1840, and was one of six children, the result of the union of Robert and Martha (Pollock) Gordon, both of Scotch-Irish descent. The father was born in Scotland, was married there and there passed his last days. The

mother died in Nebraska in 1880. Both were members of the Episcopal Church. Their children were named as follows: Mary A., James, in Nebraska; Robert (deceased), Matilda J., in Canada; William (deceased) and John. The latter when a small boy came to this country with his mother and settled in Massachusetts. He learned the tailoring trade while young, and followed it for a number of years. He was married in 1860 to Miss Mary Thompson, a daughter of John Thompson, of Ontario, Canada, and nine children were the fruits of this union: Jane, now Mrs. McNeal, living in Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb.; Robert William, died in 1889; John, at home; Matilda, at home; Addie, at home; Martha M., Freddie, died in 1881; Charles E., and Henry A. Mr. Gordon emigrated to Hastings, Neb., in 1875, took up the land where he now lives, it being a timber claim, and now has a fine farm. He has been in the State about seventeen years and has seen many changes during that period. He had some experience with the grasshoppers, and has been through some of the severe storms of that State, but for all that thinks that Nebraska cannot be beaten. On first coming to Nebraska Mr. Gordon worked at the tailor's trade in Hastings for a few years, but later settled on his farm. Hastings at that time consisted of only a few houses. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are members of the Episcopal Church. He has been a member of the school board of the district and was elected as supervisor of Hanover Township in 1890. He is a Republican in politics and a public spirited citizen.

Charles Grebe, farmer and stock raiser, Juniata, Neb. In mentioning those of foreign birth who have become closely associated with the farming and stock raising interests of Adams County, we should not fail to present an outline of the career of Mr. Grebe, for it is one which has fully borne out the reputation of that class of industrious, energetic men of Prussian nativity, who have risen to prominence in different portions of this country. He was born December 4, 1845, attained his growth in his native country, and remained with his father until reaching mature years. He served for two years, from 1864 to 1866, in the German Army, and after being discharged came to the United States. He

resided in Illinois in the spring of 1867, working on a farm in Logan County, and there remained for about five years, when he moved to Nebraska. He entered a farm in Adams County, in the year 1872, commenced improving the same, added to it, and now has 320 acres of as good land as is to be found in the township. He served as magistrate one year and for two years held the position of supervisor in Roseland Township. When Mr. Grebe came to this country he was in debt one hundred dollars and had nothing but his clothing. He now has an excellent farm and is considered one of the most successful agriculturalists of Roseland Township. He is a member of the Lutheran Church. In 1883 Mr. Grebe returned to Prussia, visited his parents, Fred and Louisa (Landau) Grebe, both natives of Prussia, where the father died in 1885, and spent the summer in visiting different portions of the old country. His mother is still living.

Peter Griffith. Adams County, Neb., has long had the reputation of being one of the best agricultural regions in the State, and not only do the farmers here give much attention to this industry, but devote much of their attention to stock raising also, and are usually men of enterprise and intelligence. Prominent among those who have done their full share in advancing every interest of the county is Mr. Griffith, who has resided here since March, 1874. He was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., September 15, 1836, and is a son of Aeph and Elizabeth (Granger) Griffith, who were born, reared and married in the "Empire State." The father was a carpenter by trade, but his career was brought to a close quite suddenly in Pennsylvania, where he was residing with a son, in April, 1856. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a man who possessed many sterling traits of character, strict integrity being one of his principal characteristics. His wife died in April, 1853, having borne him six sons and three daughters, one of the daughters dying at the age of eighteen years and one in infancy. Peter Griffith is the youngest of the family, and until nineteen years of age resided in his native county, receiving the advantages of the common schools (as well as private instruction). He removed to Mercer County, Ill., and after attending school at Rock

Island for some time engaged in teaching school, which occupation continued to be his principal means of livelihood until his removal to the State of Nebraska in the year named above. His homestead consists of 160 acres of excellent land, well improved with good buildings, orchards, etc., and for some time in addition to tilling this land he was engaged in "teaching the young idea." He was married in Mercer County, Ill., October 15, 1869, to Miss Jennie Eckley, a native of Fulton County, Ill., who was reared and educated in Mercer County, a daughter of George Eckley. Mr. and Mrs. Griffith have a daughter, Anna May, who is one of the county's most successful educators, and are rearing two orphan children: Lloyd B. and John W., who take the name of Griffith. One is now ten years of age and the other, two years. In 1862 Mr. Griffith joined Company K, One Hundred and Second Illinois Infantry, but was on detached duty most of the time, acting as clerk at Gen. Harrison's headquarters. He received his discharge at Chicago in June, 1865, being now a member of the G. A. R. He is a Republican in his political views, but latterly has acted and voted for Prohibition. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an active worker for the cause of Christianity.

H. C. Hansen, Hastings, Neb. There are times when glancing over the life records of persons that it seems absolutely necessary to use that often abused phrase, "self-made man," and this is true of Mr. Hansen. He is of foreign birth, a native of Denmark, born March 31, 1852, and the son of Anderson and Sophia Hansen, both natives of Denmark, where the mother died. The father is still living, and is a resident of that country. H. C. Hansen crossed the ocean to the United States when fifteen years of age, located at Omaha before there were any railroads, remained there for a short time, and then went to Iowa, where he remained for two years. After this he returned to Omaha and farmed for one year. For nearly twenty years Mr. Hansen has been manager for some of the best business houses in the different cities; was seven years with Van Brant & Sons, of Council Bluffs, and for six years he has represented F. H. Pugh in Hastings. Mr.

Hansen, the youngest of nine children, came to the United States without money, relatives or acquaintances, and had but ninety cents when he reached Omaha. He is a first class business man, and manages the large establishment of Mr. Pugh with ability and wisdom. He is very much pleased with Hastings and the United States, and has no desire to return to Denmark. He was married in 1877 to Miss Emma D. Niemann, a native of Madison, Wis., born October 2, 1862, and the daughter of Henry A. and Dora (Meyer) Niemann, who are now residing in Irwin, Iowa. In politics Mr. Hansen is Democratic. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and a member of Uniform rank. He is one of the popular men of Hastings.

Michael E. Hargleroad, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein, Neb. This honored and respected resident of Adams County is accorded a worthy place in this volume, for he is one of the representative men of the county. His occupation during life has been that of a farmer, and he is now living on his fine farm of 320 acres, one mile from Holstein. Mr. Hargleroad was born in Franklin County, Pa., on November 18, 1824, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Etter) Hargleroad, both natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Lancaster County. The elder Hargleroad was a cooper by trade, but in connection carried on farming, and resided in his native State until 1833, when he received his final summons. Michael E. Hargleroad was reared in Franklin County, Pa., and was early initiated into the duties of farm life. In 1874 he moved to Huntington, Ind., and came west to Nebraska the same year, where he entered land. He settled on his present property, and has one of the finest farms in the county, on which are a neat frame building, good barn, sheds and outbuildings. He has about two acres in orchard and has an excellent variety of fruit. He was married first in Pennsylvania, in 1849, to Miss Elizabeth Brough, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Adams County. She died on July 8, 1882, leaving ten children: Christian P., Michael A., John C., William B., Frank E., Harvey B., Katie (wife of George Coover), Susannah B. (wife of August Hobfeld), Sarah (wife of Sol. Martin) and Elizabeth (wife of Jacob Evans). Mr. Hargleroad

raised a good average crop last year, and is one of the first-class farmers of his township.

Christian P. Hargleroad, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein, Neb. Mr. Hargleroad was originally from Franklin County, Pa., where his birth occurred December 5, 1852, and is the son of M. E. Hargleroad, a native of Pennsylvania, whose sketch immediately precedes this. Christian Hargleroad was early taught the duties of farm life, and it was but natural perhaps, that when he was starting out in life for himself he should choose agricultural pursuits as his future occupation. He received a good common school education, and this he has greatly improved by self study since reaching years of maturity. He moved with his parents to Nebraska, in the spring of 1875, settled in Adams County, and entered land in Cottonwood Township. Later he sold this place and purchased his present property, which consists of 160 acres of good land two miles from Holstein. He has a comfortable house, good out buildings, and has a fine young orchard of a select variety of fruit. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party, and has held a number of local positions in the township. He was elected assessor of Cottonwood Township, and served in 1879 and 1885, and re-elected in 1886, but did not qualify, and was elected township treasurer in 1887. He was elected in 1880 and served as magistrate one term, and also served as a member of the school board. Mr. Hargleroad was married here on January 9, 1881, to Miss Mary A. Evans, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of John Evans. Mrs. Hargleroad was reared and educated in Lancaster County. To this union have been born two children: Proe and Maria M. Mr. Hargleroad is one of the young but very successful and progressive farmers of the county. He raised forty-five acres of corn last year, thirty acres of barley, twenty-five acres of wheat and ten acres of oats. He also has some of the place in timothy.

Michael A. Hargleroad. Among the worthy citizens of Adams County, Neb., none are more deserving of mention than Mr. Hargleroad, whose residence within the borders of this county has extended over a period of sixteen years. During this time he has been a hard working, industrious

man, and has served his county in various capacities, and the success which has attended his labors in the conduct of his official affairs is such that naught but words of commendation have been bestowed upon him. He is one of the first members of the board of supervisors of Adams County, and has been school moderator of his district for three years. He was born in Franklin County, "Keystone State," July 13, 1854, and is one of a family of six sons and four daughters born to Michael E. and Elizabeth (Brough) Hargleroad, both of whom were born in Franklin County, and left their Pennsylvania home in 1874 to seek a home in the far West. They settled in Cottonwood Township, Adams County, Neb., and here engaged in the occupation of husbandry. The mother is now deceased, having passed from life in full communion with the Dunkard Church. Michael A. Hargleroad was reared to manhood in this locality, and was married here to Miss Sadie E. Conley, a daughter of James and Martha E. (Banta) Conley, natives of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Hargleroad have been blessed by the birth of two sons: Charles and Robert.

R. J. Harrenstein has long been considered one of the leading agriculturists and stockmen of Adams County, Neb., and it may be said that he fully deserves the success which has crowned his efforts. He was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1844, being the third child born to C. G. Harrenstein and Galy Heddinga, his wife, the former of whom was a successful merchant and died in the town of Hinte in 1889, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife died in 1883 at the age of seventy-four years. Their children are: Garret, Sarah, R. J., Bernhard, John and Allie. In the year 1868 R. J. Harrenstein started out in life to do for himself, and thinking the New World offered better advantages for an ambitious and enterprising man, he came to the United States and settled on a farm near Freeport, in Stephenson County, Ill., but in 1872 he removed to Grundy County, Iowa. Here he was married the same year to Miss Swancy Deacon, a daughter of Sebelt Deacon, of Illinois, and two years after the celebration of his nuptials he settled in Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb., taking up land to the amount of eighty acres. He has since pur-

chased 120 acres, and now has a fine, well improved and stocked farm. Being one of the early pioneers here he experienced many hardships in securing a comfortable home for his family, but being persistent, energetic and frugal, he met with the success his labors merited, and is considered by all to be a substantial citizen of the county and a good friend and neighbor. Schools and churches find in him a liberal patron, and in his political views he has been a Republican since coming to this country. He and wife are members of the Reformed Church, and have become the parents of the following children: Tiny, the eldest, died in 1875; Galy, Tiny, Cornelia, Frida, Sarah, Anna and Dora.

Michel Antony Hartigan is a prominent member of the Hastings bar, and his name is identified with the welfare of that city and Adams County. He was born in Carbondale, Luzerne County, Pa., July 12, 1849, and was the eldest of ten children born to William and Kathleen (Ragan) Hartigan, the former of whom was born in Ireland in 1817, and the latter in Pennsylvania, in the city of Philadelphia, in 1824. William Hartigan came to the United States at the age of twelve years, and first located in Schuylkill County, Pa., and after reaching a suitable age, was for a number of years superintendent of the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company, at Scranton, Pa. Later he engaged in farming and this occupation now receives his attention. John Ragan, the maternal grandfather, was born in the "Emerald Isle," but was exiled during the troubles of 1798, and upon reaching the shores of America he settled in Pennsylvania, where he died in 1865, at the advanced age of one hundred and nine years. Michel Antony Hartigan remained on the farm until fourteen years of age, and on June 20, 1863, joined the Pennsylvania Reserves, and took part in the bloody battle of Gettysburg, where he was severely wounded, and from the field of battle was taken to the hospital at Fort Schuyler, N. Y. Upon his recovery he returned home and entered St. Joseph's College, at St. Joseph, Pa., with the intention of preparing himself for a priest, but this college was burned on January 1, 1864, and Mr. Hartigan then entered Owego Academy, at Owego, N. Y., where he remained four years and

eight months, during which time he lived in the house of Hon. John M. Parker, a judge of the New York supreme court. Subsequently Mr. Hartigan entered the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Ind., and in 1878 graduated from this institution in the literary and law departments, receiving the degree of LL. B. Prior to this, in March, 1869, Mr. Hartigan had wedded Miss Martha Crandall, at Cold Water, Mich., and in this State he made his home until 1878, at which time he came to Nebraska, and was an active legal practitioner of Plattsmouth until 1888, when he came to Hastings. Here he has become well known, and is already ranked among the leading lawyers of the State. He is a stockholder in the City National Bank, also the Hastings Electric Light & Power Company, for both of which he acts as counsel, as well as for the Eastern Banking Company. He has always been a Republican in politics, and during his residence in Michigan was elected three different times as county superintendent of schools, one term as circuit court commissioner, and three times as mayor of Reed City, the place of his residence. He is liberal in his religious views, while his wife, and children, who number six, are members of the Episcopal Church. The names of the latter are: John C., Kathleen, Michel A., William B., Anna and Gilmore (twins).

Philander E. Hatch, junior member of the firm of Norton & Hatch, bankers of Kenesaw and Madrid, Neb., is a native of Connecticut, born at New Milford, July 25, 1861. His parents, John and Diana Louisa (Canfield) Hatch, were both natives of Connecticut, where they now reside, and where the father is extensively engaged in farming. Philander E. Hatch attended the public schools, and afterward entered Whittlesey's Seminary at New Preston, Conn., where he completed his course. At the age of fourteen years he accepted the responsible position of station and express agent in the employment of the Shepaug Valley Railroad, and after having spent two years here he entered the commercial department of Yale Business College, where by close application he finished the usual six months' course in four months, graduating in 1877. Following his graduation he accepted a position as assistant book-

keeper with Sargent & Co., of New Haven, and remained there nearly two years. He then became bookkeeper for Peck & Bishop of the same place, and later was head bookkeeper for H. B. Armstrong & Co., where he remained till failing health compelled him to resign. In April, 1887, he came to Kenesaw, and became a member of the present firm. On November 7, 1883, at Guilford, Conn., he was united in marriage with Miss Elouise C. Norton, a native of Guilford, Conn., and a daughter of Henry E. and Lucy A. (Munger) Norton. [For particulars of parents see sketch of Henry E. Norton.] One child, Florence E., whose birth occurred on August 20, 1887, is the result of this union. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch are members of the Presbyterian Church, and have the respect and esteem of all acquainted with them. In 1889 Mr. Hatch was elected clerk of Kenesaw Township, and is at present clerk of the village of Kenesaw. He has also served as a member of the town board. He is a K. of P.

John G. Hayzlett, merchant, Kenesaw, Neb. Mr. Hayzlett, one of the oldest settlers and prominent business men of Kenesaw, is a native of Virginia, born March 5, 1830, and is the son of Andrew and Catherine (Huggard) Hayzlett, who were both natives of Virginia. In 1831 the parents removed to Indiana, located in Hancock County, where they resided until 1853, and then removed to Iowa. They settled in Linn County, and there the father died in 1886 at the age of eighty-five years. His widow followed him to the grave in 1888, being ninety-one years of age at the time of her death. Their family consisted of three sons and one daughter, John G. being the eldest. He grew to maturity with his parents, receiving such limited advantages for an education as the district schools of that early period afforded, and when twenty-one years of age he began farming, which occupation he followed in Indiana until 1854, when he removed to Linn County, Iowa. Previous to this, on March 20, 1851, he married Miss Eleanor K. Hatfield, a native of the Old Dominion, who died in 1872, leaving seven children. In 1857 Mr. Hayzlett began merchandising in Linn County, and in 1867 he was elected sheriff of that county, filling the office in such an able and efficient manner that he was twice re-elected,

holding the office longer than any other person before or since. Previously he had been elected justice of the peace, and had served in that capacity for several years. In 1862 he enlisted in Company F, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and was elected first lieutenant of the company. He participated in the battle of Port Gibson, bombardment of Grand Gulf, Champion's Hill, Black River, Vicksburg, was present at its capture, and was in the battle of Jackson. In 1863 he resigned his commission and returned to his home. He was never wounded during service. On May 2, 1876, he was united in marriage to Miss Jennie L. Platner, a native of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Hayzlett are both respected members of the Presbyterian Church of Kenesaw, of which he is an elder, and is also superintendent of the Sabbath-school. Mrs. Hayzlett is active in woman's work, and takes a deep interest in all charitable and benevolent enterprises. In 1888 she was elected a delegate, from Nebraska, to the national meeting of the W. C. T. U., held in the city of New York. In 1878 Mr. Hayzlett came to Kenesaw, where he purchased a farm and also established himself in the mercantile business in the young town, being among the earliest inhabitants of the place. He has since continued in the mercantile business, and enjoys the confidence and patronage of a large circle of acquaintances. In 1878 he was appointed justice of the peace and was the first to hold that office in Kenesaw. He has since been several times re-elected, and has held the position continuously since, with the exception of about two years. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is also a member of the Masonic Fraternity, Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, and Mount Nebo Commandery No. 11, Hastings, Neb.

S. L. Heaps, farmer and stock raiser, Pauline, Neb. Mr. Heaps, one of the pioneer settlers of Little Blue Township, homesteaded 160 acres of land on Section 20 in 1872, and is now one of the substantial and enterprising citizens of the county. He was born in Henry County, Ill., in 1851, and was the eighth in a family of nine children born to the union of W. G. and Hester (Green) Heaps, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was one of the sturdy sons of toil, and in 1846 moved to Henry County,

Ill., where he bought land at Government price, commenced improving it, and there made his permanent home. The mother died in Illinois in 1886. Of their children, C. L., married, and resides in Illinois; Barbara, now Mrs. Wolf, resides in Henry County, Ill.; W. T., married, and resides in Hayes County, Kas.; I. G., enlisted, in 1861, for three years in Company I, Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry, served three years and held the rank of first lieutenant; he was wounded at Pittsburg Landing, and then at Island No. 10 he was taken prisoner and confined in Andersonville for six months; at the expiration of his term of enlistment he recruited a company—Company I, Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and was made captain of the same; he served until cessation of hostilities; he is now traveling for a journal company; John B., enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Infantry, for three years; he was killed at Resaca, Ga., on May 2, 1864, and is buried in the South; Mary, now Mrs. Maxwell, a widow, resides in Illinois; Martha is now Mrs. Arnold, of Little Blue Township, Adams County, Neb.; S. L. and J. P., married, and the latter resides on the homestead in Illinois. S. L. Heaps was reared to farm life and educated in the schools of Henry County, Ill. He commenced farming for himself on his homestead in 1872, and improved his farm as he could. He also taught school in Adams County, and thus made most of his time. He was married in February, 1876, in Illinois, to Miss Mary E. Twyer, a native of Canada. Her death occurred in September, 1881. To this union were born two children: Aldis and Elton. S. L. Heaps' second marriage took place in Henry County, Ill., in 1883, to Miss Anna E. Luhmann, a native of that county, and her death occurred in January, 1888. Two children were the fruits of this union: Guy and Leroy. Mr. Heaps was married at What Cheer, Iowa, in 1889, to Mrs. Mollie Killion, *nee* Henry, who was reared in that State. She has two children by her former marriage: Stella and Ray Killion. In the spring of 1876 Mr. Heaps erected a frame house, and has taken pains to set out a good orchard. He has good barns and outbuildings and a pipe laid in the house furnishes them with both soft and hard water. Mr. Heaps is quite deeply in-

terested in stock raising, making a specialty of Hereford stock and having a good grade of Norman horses. He is active in politics, and votes with the Republican party. He is chairman of the Republican central committee, and has been supervisor two terms, after which he resigned. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He owns the store and hall in Paulina, and is one of the prominent citizens of the community. His farm consists of 400 acres of good tillable land.

Michael Hess, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Among the many residents of foreign birth in Adams County, Neb., none are more deserving of mention than the subject of this sketch. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1840, and was the son of Thomas and Barbara (Balling) Hess. The father was born in 1800, was a farmer by occupation, and was married in Germany to Miss Balling, which union resulted in the birth of four sons and one daughter: Thomas, Barney, Barbara, Michael, and John, who left his native country for America, located in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1870, and is there engaged in the hotel business. Michael Hess remained in his native country until thirty-one years of age. From twenty-one till twenty-eight years old he served as soldier in the Second Cuersasir Regiment, Prince Adelbert, in the Army of Bavaria, and fought in the War of 1866 on the Austrian side against the Prussians; and in 1871 emigrated to the United States, settling in Leland, Mich., and while there worked in a blasting furnace. He was married in 1871 to Miss Margaret Menninger, daughter of John Menninger, and in 1872 he moved to Nebraska, locating where he now resides. He entered 160 acres of land, and now has all well improved and all under fence. He has five children living and two deceased, Emile and Anna B. being the ones deceased, and the following are now living: Bertha, born in Michigan in 1872; Hattie, born in Nebraska in 1874; Alexander, born in Nebraska in 1877; Amelia, born in Nebraska in 1879, and Barbara, who was born in 1881. All the children are at home. When Mr. Hess first moved to Nebraska the country was all in prairie, and his nearest neighbor was miles distant. Since then there have been many improvements, and Hastings has built

up very rapidly. He likes the country, and expects to make it his home. He and his wife are members of the Catholic Church. He is interested in political matters, and is a Democrat in his principles.

John D. Heye, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. John Henry Heye, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Germany, and was a carpenter by trade. He was married in his native country to Miss Geske Janssen, also a native of Germany, and to them were born the following children: John D., Anna, Lena, and an infant son (name not remembered). The parents died in the old country in 1868 and 1864, respectively. They were members of the Lutheran Church. John D. Heye passed his school days in Germany, and was married in that country in 1858 to Miss Anna M. Boltjes, a daughter of Fred and Mina Boltjes, natives also of Germany. John D. Heye crossed the ocean to the United States in 1864, settled in New York City, and there remained two years. In 1866 he came west and settled in Ogle County, Ill., remained there for eight years, and in 1874 moved to Nebraska, settling in Blaine Township, Adams County. In 1877 he purchased 480 acres of land, and now has this fine tract of land under cultivation and well improved. He has been very successful in farming and stock raising. To his marriage have been born ten children, the first three of whom were born in Germany: Lena (now Mrs. Stimbirt, resides in Kansas), John (married to Miss Mary Hilbers and resides on his father's place in Blaine Township), George (deceased), Louis F. (married to Miss Katie Johnson and lives in Adams County), Henry (at home), Minnie Anna (in Kansas with her sister), Dedrick (at home), Lizzie (at home), Hermenia (at home), and August (also at home). Mr. and Mrs. Heye are members of the Lutheran Church, and active workers in the same. He has been a member of the school board of his district for three years, and is a man who is generous to all worthy enterprises. He was here during the grasshopper season, and being one of the pioneers, has witnessed the rapid development of the country. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party.

Herman Hibbeler, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Hibbeler is another of those of

foreign birth who have come into this county and made for themselves a comfortable home, becoming respected citizens of the community. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1831, spent his boyhood days in his native country, and in 1869 came to the United States. He settled in Omaha, Neb., and followed the stone mason trade. He was married in Nebraska in 1871 to Miss Sophia Roskamp, daughter of John and Mary (Danneman) Roskamp, who had a family of eight children: Catherine, Annie, Margaret, Mary, John, Sophia, Christiana, Herman, all born in Germany, where they spent their childhood. Two of them are in the United States, Annie in Omaha, Neb., and Sophia, wife of Herman Hibbeler, the subject of our sketch. The latter came to this country from Germany in 1870. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hibbeler: Mary, born in 1872, and Henry, in 1878. Mr. Hibbeler moved to Hastings, Neb., in 1872, followed the plasterer's trade, and plastered some of the first houses in that town. This pursuit he followed for twelve years, and in 1884 moved to his farm in Hanover Township, which he had taken up as timber claim in 1872, and which consisted of eighty acres. Aside from this he is also owner of property in Hastings, and all his property has been the result of honest, industrious labor. He is a Democrat in his political views, and he and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. He is one of the pioneers of Adams County, and says that when he first settled here it was all prairie land. Mr. Hibbeler's father, Christian Hibbeler, was a native of Germany, and was a successful agriculturist. He was married to Miss Catherine Danneman; and to them were born eight children: Herman, Mary, Anna, Sophia, Dedrick, Henry, Ludwig and Mattie, all in Omaha with the exception of Anna, Sophia, Henry and Herman, the first three of whom are in Germany.

Charles E. Higinbotham. The magnitude of the real estate business in Hastings, and the incessant activity in the market, have enlisted the services of many of her most responsible men, among the number being Mr. Higinbotham, who was born in Dane County, Wis., April 19, 1861, being the eldest of three children born to George W. and Ann (Thompson) Higinbotham, the former of whom was born in

Pennsylvania, and died in Dane County, Wis., in 1871. Mrs. Higinbotham was born in Scotland, and in early life came to the United States, and is now a resident of Sutton, Neb., having moved there from Wisconsin, in November, 1874. Charles E. Higinbotham was thirteen years of age at this time, consequently the greater part of his education was received in this town. For two years he attended Doane College, of Crete, Neb., after which he remained for one year in Sutton, then spent the three succeeding years in traveling throughout Nebraska in the interest of the Walter A. Wood harvesting machines. In 1884 he came to Hastings, and since that time has devoted his attention to the real estate and collecting business, at which he has done exceptionally well. He is acknowledged by all to be an excellent financier and, possessing unquestionable integrity, those entrusting their interests to him may rest assured they will receive the most prompt and careful attention. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and being a member of the Republican party, his first presidential vote was cast for James G. Blaine, in 1884. His marriage to Miss Etta M. Cox was celebrated in February, 1884, she being born in Wayne County, Ind., in 1861, and by her he has two little daughters: Ethel and Clara.

George W. Hill is recognized as a careful, energetic agriculturist, and by his advanced ideas and progressive habits, has done not a little to advance the farming interests of Adams County. He was born in Huntington County, Ind., January 29, 1849, a son of John and Mary (Beard) Hill, both of whom were born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and died in Huntington County, Ind., the former's death occurring in 1863, at the age of fifty-five years, and the latter's a year later, also aged fifty-five. George W. Hill is next to the youngest of their five children, and in youth became familiar with the details of farm work on the old homestead in Indiana, and received the advantages of the common schools. Owing to failing health he concluded to seek a change of location, and in 1873 came to Nebraska and settled in Hastings, and being favorably impressed with Adams County, determined to make it his home, and in 1874 settled on his present farm

of 160 acres, which is situated two miles southwest of Hastings. His land is well improved with necessary buildings, fences, etc., and has also a good bearing orchard, and it is only necessary to give a glance over Mr. Hill's possessions to see that his farm is admirably managed. In 1872 he was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Lydia Smith, a daughter of John and Nancy (Hutsel) Smith, by whom he has two children: Harlen and Alice. Mrs. Hill was born in Miami County, Ohio, April 3, 1849. Mr. Hill has always identified himself with the Republican party, but is not an unreasonable partisan.

S. M. Hoagland, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. It is a fact unnecessary of denial that a person is better fitted to follow the occupation with which he became familiar early in life than to engage in an undertaking learned in later years. This truth is borne out by the career of Mr. Hoagland, who from a boy has known all the minute details of agricultural life. To this acquired knowledge may be added a natural faculty for that calling, for his father, John Hoagland, was also an agriculturalist, and a very successful one at that. The elder Hoagland was a native of New Jersey, born in 1789, and by his marriage to Miss Rachel Metler, became the father of twelve children: Jonathan J., Matilda, William, S. M., Elizabeth, Mary, Jonas, Harris (was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg when twenty-two years of age), John P., Emeline, Angeline and Annie (who died in infancy). Mr. and Mrs. Hoagland were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The former died in Pennsylvania in 1856, and the latter at Hastings, Neb., in 1889. S. M. Hoagland received the rudiments of an education in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and subsequently attended Dickinson Seminary, after which he was engaged in teaching and clerking. He selected for his companion in life Miss Mary Davis, of Welsh and Pennsylvania Dutch descent respectively, and the daughter of John and Mary (Rarrig) Davis, and was united in marriage to her in 1858. The result of this happy union was the birth of eight children: Georgiana, now Mrs. Dillow; John, a member of the fire department at Hastings; Rachel E., in Chicago; Milton, a grocery-

man at Hastings; Clark, at home; S. Grant, at home; Ella C. and Frankie, at home. Mr. Hoagland purchased a farm in Pennsylvania and there remained until 1875, when he moved to Lee County, Ill. After farming there until 1878 he emigrated to Adams County, Neb., and settled on the prairie, where he now resides. He bought 160 acres of railroad land, all now under cultivation, and at the present time one of the finest tracts of land to be found in the county. He has a fine house, a good substantial barn, and all the modern improvements. He has made a success of farming in Nebraska, and likes the State and people. He is a strong advocate of the temperance question, and is one of the leaders. He is at present holding the office of assessor of his township, and it is his fifth time. He has been on the school board; has been justice of the peace, and is a man who takes an interest in all things for the good of the country. He has always been a Republican, and his vote was cast with the Prohibition party last election. He and Mrs. Hoagland are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

W. C. Hodges, farmer and stockman, Le Roy, Neb. Mr. Hodges was born in Mentor, Lake County, Ohio, in 1831, and is the son of Erastus and Lavina (Utley) Hodges, both natives of Massachusetts, and born in 1808 and 1817, respectively. The father left his native State and went to Ohio, in 1818, with his parents, Cinnamon and Petty (Burnett) Hodges, and was here married about 1829 to Miss Utley. To this union were born these children: W. C., Benjamin F. and James H., the last two now residing in Ohio. Erastus Hodges was a Republican in his political views, and was a delegate to the convention that nominated Martin Van Buren for President in 1844. He was deeply interested in political matters, but did not let it interfere with his farming interests. He died in 1884, and the mother in 1878. Our subject's mother was the daughter of Hamilton Utley, and the sister of Col. William L. Utley, of Racine, Wis. W. C. Hodges assisted his father on the farm and received his education in the schools of Ohio. About 1852 he started out for himself as a carpenter and followed this trade for some time. In August, 1861, he en-

listed in Company B, Forty-first Ohio Infantry, and participated in some of the principal battles: Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, and was drum major of the Forty-first Ohio Regiment, for one year. He came home in 1865. He was married while home after his first enlistment to Miss Ellen Hawes, daughter of Enos and Betsey (Morton) Hawes, all of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges reared four children: Lou M., now Mrs. L. R. Fowler; Leon E., married to Gertrude Rosenburgh and resides at Cleveland, Ohio; Willie C. and Lavina. Mr. Hodges followed the carpenter trade and was also postmaster at Ford, Geauga County, Ohio, for eighteen years. In 1884 he emigrated to Adams County, Neb., bought one-half of Section 36, on the east, and has greatly improved the same. He votes with the Republican party, was a member of the State convention in 1888, and has attended the county convention a number of times. In 1888 he was elected township supervisor and has held that position ever since. During 1886 he was justice of the peace of the township. He is a member of the school board and a first class citizen. His wife died in Nebraska in 1889. She was born in Ohio in 1839. He is a member of the G. A. R. at Ayr.

Carl Robert Hohlfeld, farmer, stock raiser and blacksmith, Holstein, Neb. Among those in this country who have come from other continents and have made for themselves homes, the men of German origin and birth should not be overlooked. Carl Robert Hohlfeld, a native of Saxony, Germany, was born on January 12, 1843, and is the son of Carl G. and Christina (Kinzel) Hohlfeld, both natives of Germany. The family emigrated to the States in 1847, locating first in Wisconsin, Sheboygan County, where they remained until 1873, when in the fall of that year they moved to Nebraska, and settled in Adams County. There the father died in 1885, but his wife is still living. Carl Robert Hohlfeld was early taught the duties of farm life in Wisconsin and Illinois, and in the fall of 1861 he enlisted in the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry. He was in active duty until discharged, at the expiration of his term of service, January, 1865, with the rank of corporal. He was in the battle of Prairie Grove,

Ark., also in the battles of Gen. Price's raid and in many skirmishes. After the war he returned to Wisconsin, and soon after moved to Illinois, where he remained until coming to Nebraska in 1873, being the first settler of Cottonwood Township. He has now 400 acres of good land all in a state of cultivation, and has an orchard of some 200 trees, from which he got about eighty-five bushels of apples last fall (1889). He was married in Illinois, in March, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth Wiegant, a native of Hesse, Germany, and the daughter of Conrad Wiegant, a native of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Hohlfeld were born seven children: Fred, Gustave, Bertha, Henry, Charles, Anna and Edward. Mr. and Mrs. Hohlfeld are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is a member of the G. A. R., and a Democrat in politics. He was elected supervisor in 1888 and served two terms, and has also been a member of the school board.

Charles Hohlfeld, farmer and stock raiser, Roseland, Neb. On November 17, 1849, in Milwaukee, Wis., there was born to C. G. and Christina H. (Kinzel) Hohlfeld, a son, who is taken as the subject of this sketch. The parents were born in Saxony, Germany, and emigrated to the United States in 1848. They located in Wisconsin, where they resided until 1873, and then moved to Nebraska and settled in Adams County on a farm. There the father died on May 25, 1885, but his wife is still living. Charles Hohlfeld was reared to mature years in Sheboygan County, Wis., and remained with his father until fifteen years of age, when he went to Illinois, and there worked on a farm with a brother-in-law. He remained in that State for about ten years and then, in 1873, moved to Nebraska, arriving in Adams County in November of that year. In the spring of 1874 he was afflicted with fever sores on his left limb, and was obliged to have this amputated at Omaha in the following spring. Although he has but one leg Mr. Hohlfeld has carried on his farm and has been very successful. He has his place well cultivated and has 160 acres of land in one tract, all in a good state of cultivation and about four miles from Roseland. He has good buildings on his place, a young bearing orchard, some small fruits, etc. Mr. Hohlfeld is Democratic in his polit-

ical views and adheres firmly to that party. He was elected assessor in 1879 and re-elected in 1887, and has made two assessments of Roseland Township. He was elected clerk of the township in 1880 and re-elected in 1888 and 1889. He was a candidate for Representative at one time, and received a very flattering vote, having run ahead of his ticket. Mr. Hohlfeld was married in Adams County on October 20, 1882, to Miss Anna M. Bunde, who was born and reared in Prussia, and who was a daughter of Ludwig and Caroline Bunde. To Mr. and Mrs. Hohlfeld was born one son: Oscar Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Hohlfeld are members of the Lutheran Church and he is a member of the I. O. O. F.

U. C. Holderman, farmer and stockman, Trumbull, Neb. This enterprising citizen resides on Section 12, West Blue Township, Adams County, Neb., where he homesteaded 160 acres of land in the spring of 1873. He was born in Cedar County, Iowa, on December 6, 1844, but was reared in Johnson County of that State. He was the youngest of three children born to Christian and Mary (Coe) Holderman, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Indiana. When a young man the father went to Ohio, from there to Iowa, where he was married, and where he carried on the milling business, on Cedar River. He was both a millwright and a cabinet maker by trade, and his death occurred in Cedar County, Iowa, in 1845. His widow still survives him and resides in Iowa. U. C. Holderman was educated in the schools of Johnson County, Iowa, was early initiated into the mysteries of farm life, and when it became necessary for him to start out in life he chose agricultural pursuits as his calling. In August, 1862, in Johnson County, Iowa, he enlisted for three years in Company A, Twenty-second Iowa Infantry, and was mustered into service at Iowa City. He was first assigned to the Western department and participated in the battles of Champion's Hill and Vicksburg. He was transferred to the Army of the Potomac and was in the battle of Winchester, Fisher Hill, Cedar Creek, etc. He was discharged at Savannah, Ga., on July 6, 1865, and returned to Johnson County, where he was married, in 1868, to Miss Myra Morse, a native of Johnson County, Iowa, and the daughter of Nathaniel and

Emily (Parks) Morse, natives of New York and Indiana, respectively. Mr. Morse was a farmer, and settled in Johnson County, Iowa, in 1839, entered land and bought his property at the land sales in Dubuque. The father died in 1847 and the mother is still living and resides in Hastings. After his marriage Mr. Holderman remained in Iowa until 1873, and then, as before stated, moved to Adams County, Neb. He has improved his farm, planted groves, an orchard, and is now burning wood raised on the farm. He now owns 400 acres of good tillable land, and besides his farming interests is also engaged in raising considerable stock, making a specialty of the Galloway breed. He is active in politics, votes with the Republican party, and his first vote was cast while he was in service during the war. He has been a member of the school board for about ten years, and takes an active interest in educational matters. He is a member of William H. Harrison Post No. 283, G. A. R., at Trumbull, Neb., and is adjutant of the Post. He and Mrs. Holderman are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Trumbull. To their marriage have been born six children: Hubbard, Emma, Myra, Lydia, Miles and Grant. When he first settled in Adams County there was but one settler on the road to Hastings from his place, a distance of ten miles. He is practically a self-made man, having accumulated all his property by his own exertions.

Frank D. Hollingsworth, live stock dealer, Hastings, Neb. What is usually termed genius has little to do with the success of men in general. Keen perception, sound judgment, and a determined will, supported by persevering and continuous effort, are essential elements to success in any calling. One is led to these reflections by a study of the life of the above mentioned gentleman. Mr. Hollingsworth owes his nativity to Keokuk, Iowa, where his birth occurred on September 12, 1854, and is the eldest of five children born to the union of Zebulus and Maria (Davey) Hollingsworth, natives of Lebanon, Ohio, and Terre Haute, Ind., respectively. The parents now reside at Keokuk, Iowa, and the father is engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is about sixty-seven years of age and his wife about sixty-three years of age. Frank D. Hollingsworth

first attended the public schools of Iowa, and later became a student at the Iowa State University, at Iowa City. At the age of sixteen years he began the stock business, buying and shipping, and successfully continued the same in his native State until 1885. He shipped to the markets of the South, and was one of the best known stock dealers in Iowa. He came to Hastings, Neb., in 1885, and has since continued the stock business, buying and shipping horses and mules to the South, and finding a ready sale in Georgia. For nineteen years he has been engaged in this business. November 16, 1881, he was united in marriage to Miss Hattie, daughter of L. J. and Maria Rogers, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Rogers died in Hastings, Neb., in August, 1888, and the mother now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Hollingsworth. The latter was born in Salem, Iowa, on March 7, 1862. To Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth has been born one child, Elizabeth, whose birth occurred on March 28, 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth have a pleasant home at 617 Saunders Avenue.

David J. J. Hornback is a worthy and representative agriculturist of Adams County, Neb., and acquired his knowledge of the calling from his father, Jacob Hornback, who was also a tiller of the soil, and this knowledge of the calling was put to practical experience on the old homestead in Kentucky. He was born in Bath County of that State in 1832, and is the third of eight children born to his father's union with Elizabeth Bradshaw, who was a cousin of Gen. Bradshaw, and died in 1856. Jacob Hornback was a Kentuckian, and served throughout the Blackhawk War. The youth of David J. J. Hornback was unfortunately deprived of any favorable opportunities for obtaining an education, and he never received a day's schooling until after he was twenty-one years of age. When sixteen years old he went with his father to Illinois, they being pioneers of Menard County. Upon attaining his majority he began farming for himself, and after his father's death he took charge of the family, consisting of five small children, to whom he nobly devoted many of his youthful years, rearing them to maturity. He was married in 1857 to Miss Harriet Perkins, who died about a year later,

leaving an infant son, Samuel. About this time Mr. Hornback bought sixty acres of land, and was actively engaged in following the plow when the Rebellion broke out. In 1861 he enlisted in Company E, Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and was in the battles of Fort Donelson, Fort Henry, Lamar, Pittsburgh Landing, both battles of Corinth, Holly Springs, siege of Vicksburg, and received his discharge at Springfield, Ill., September 16, 1865. He was in thirteen bloody combats and was twice wounded, first at Shiloh, and then at Champion's Hill. After the close of the war he returned to his farm, and on September 29, 1865, was married to Miss Sarah Ennis, a native of Maryland. Mr. Hornback continued his farming operations in Illinois until 1876, when he traded his land for 243 acres in Hall County, and soon after moved on his new possessions, where he made his home for three years. Since that time he has resided in Adams County, Neb., and is the owner of 480 acres of land two miles west of Prosser. On this property he has erected good buildings, and 360 acres are under cultivation, well stocked, he owning ten head of horses and mules, eight head of cattle, and eighty head of hogs. In March, 1885, a party of robbers came to Mr. Hornback's house, thinking to secure money which he was supposed to have in his possession, and although a revolver was pointed at his head and he was threatened with instant death, did he not comply with their wishes, he firmly refused to give up a farthing of his money, and they were humane enough not to put the threat into execution. Mr. Hornback recognized them notwithstanding their disguises, and brought action in law against them, which resulted in their conviction. He has ever been a staunch Republican, and is a member of Prosser Post of the G. A. R. In addition to his farm he owns a business house and stock of general merchandise in Prosser, of which he became the owner in June, 1889, making his purchase of his son Charles D., who established the house in 1888. To Mr. Hornback and his wife the following family have been born: Samuel J., John C., M. E. Stanton, deceased; Dora, wife of Ed Duffy; Charles D., Isaac J., Wesley, M. Luvina, Sarah M., and four children who died in infancy unnamed.

H. A. Howe, postmaster, Ayr, Neb. Mr. Howe was originally from Cornwall, Litchfield County, Conn., where his birth occurred in 1847, and is the youngest child born to the union of Levy and Ercyntha (Spencer) Howe, natives of the same place as their son, and born in 1801 and 1802, respectively. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and followed this in the town of Cornwall for many years, or until his death in 1870. The mother received her final summons in 1862. Both were members of the Baptist Church, and in his political views the father affiliated with the Democratic party. Of the seven children born to their union, four are now living: Dyre, Levy, Eliza and H. A.; two died in childhood. and Cynthia died at the age of twenty-five years. H. A. spent his early life in his native State and received a fair education in the common schools. In the fall of 1876 he started West and spent the winter in Indiana. In 1877 he came to Nebraska, located in Adams County, six miles south of Juniata, and in company with a young man, Albert Peck, who came with him, bought railroad land which they farmed for two years. In 1879 Mr. Howe came to Ayr, and has been engaged in business here ever since. In 1884 he took the post office under President Arthur's administration, and has held that position ever since. The country was new when he first came to Nebraska, and Hastings was but a small place. Mr. Howe has traveled a great deal, but is confident that there is no climate or soil to equal that of Nebraska. He has been successful since coming to this State, and now owns the land on which he first settled when coming here, 160 acres, all well improved. His success is chiefly owing to good business ability. Like his father, Mr. Howe is a staunch Democrat.

Harm H. Idus, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Idus is numbered among the younger of the successful and rising agriculturists of this county, but none have a brighter future or will make better use of their advantages. He was born in Germany in 1850, and was the son of Harm G. Idus and Anna Idus, both natives of that country. The father's birth occurred in 1805, and he is still living in the old country, at Arick, Ostrigslund. The mother died in 1879. Their children were named

as follows: George, in Germany; Harm H., and Olivert, died in Nebraska, in 1885. Harm H. Idus spent his younger days in Germany, and in 1870 emigrated to Illinois, and settled in Livingston County, near Chatsworth, where he worked for a very prominent farmer. In 1874, when starting out for himself, it was but natural perhaps that he should choose agricultural pursuits as his calling in life, for his father before him had been very successful in this occupation, and had early taught Harm H. all the duties of the same. He rented land for three years, and in 1877 came to Nebraska, and bought railroad land, 160 acres in Hanover Township, which he has improved very much since that time. He was married in 1873 to Miss Lizzie Dutten, daughter of John Dutten, and the fruits of this union have been five children: Johanna, John, Harm, Olivert, and Anna (deceased). Mrs. Idus died in Nebraska, in 1881, and in 1882 Mr. Idus married Miss Lumke Johnson, daughter of John Johnson and E. Forke Bruns, who live in Glenville, Clay County, Neb. Mr. Idus has four children by his last wife: Lizzie, Attie, Minnie and Frank. Mr. Idus has been quite successful since coming to this State, and is now one of the substantial and independent farmers of the township. He has a fine lot of stock, especially some Durham cattle, and his place shows that thrift and energy have not been neglected upon it. He likes Nebraska better than Illinois, or any State in which he has hitherto resided, and is prominent in assisting in all enterprises for the good of the county. He is a Democrat in politics, and he and wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

Peter T. Jacobsen, although just in the prime of life, has made his way to the front ranks among the energetic farmers of this county, and owing to the attention he has always paid to each minor detail of his work, he has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods. He was born in Denmark in 1847, being the third of eight children born to Jacob Peterson and Aganetha (Johnson) Jacobsen, who died in their native land in 1872 and 1878, respectively. The father was a successful farmer. Peter T. Jacobsen's first start out in life was to join the Danish Army in 1869, but at the end of eighteen

months he left the service and began tilling the soil, after which he followed overseeing, for Mr. Nelson, of Bakkaskoy, but in 1881 embarked on board a ship for the United States, and soon after landing came to Nebraska and purchased eighty acres of improved land in Hanover Township, where he has since made his home. In 1882 he married Anna Margaret Anderson, who had come from Denmark to the United States at the same time as himself, a daughter of Peter Anderson, and by her has two little daughters: Aganetha and Sedse Christena. Mr. Jacobsen has taken out his naturalization papers and expects to make this country his permanent home, being much pleased with the State of Nebraska, and especially with Adams County. He takes a great degree of interest in the welfare and progress of his adopted county, and is ever found ready to assist worthy enterprises. He and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and he is a deacon in the same.

Charles Jesse was born in Germany, in 1838, and was the eldest of a family of three children born to Charles G. and Susan (Kermes) Jesse, who were also born in the old country, the father's birth occurring in 1818. He died in 1848, having been an agriculturist by occupation, his wife's death occurring in 1885, both being members of the Lutheran Church. Their children are: Charles, Minnie, who died in Germany, and August, who is following farming in his native land. Charles Jesse attended school in his native town of Schonlante, and in 1857 came to the United States with the expectation of bettering his financial condition, and settled in Marshall County, Ill., where he made his home for sixteen years. He first worked as a farm hand, then engaged in tilling the soil on his own account in 1865, but in the spring of 1873 he came to Adams County, Neb., and took up 160 acres of land in Zero Township. His farm now comprises 240 acres of fine land, and his property is excellently improved with good buildings, fences etc., and is also well stocked, his hogs numbering seventy-five and his cattle thirty. His property has been acquired through his own exertions, and he deserves much credit for the admirable way in which he has baffled with adversity, for on coming to this

country he had but little means, was a stranger in a strange land, and was unacquainted with the English language. He is deeply interested in the welfare of his adopted land, and especially of Adams County and the State of Nebraska, where he expects always to make his home. He has been a member of the school board for eight years, belongs to the Farmers' Alliance, and is an earnest member of the Lutheran Church. His marriage to Miss Malinda Brewer took place in 1868, she being a daughter of John and Merinda (White) Brewer. She was born in Illinois, and by Mr. Jesse is the mother of the following children: Edward, William, Mary, Palina, Joseph, Elmer, Birlie and Alice. The last two are twins.

George B. Johnson, manager and principal stockholder, also secretary and treasurer of Hastings Electric Light & Power Company, was born in Owego, N. Y., November 20, 1862, and is the son of William and Caroline (Herrick) Johnson. The father was born in the Empire State, and died in Hastings, Neb., in 1886, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother was born in Pennsylvania, and is now a resident of Hastings, and is sixty-four years of age. George B. Johnson was the sixth of eight children by his father's second marriage, and received a common school education. The family moved to Hastings, Neb., in 1876, and George B. assisted his father in the duties of the farm until twenty-one years of age, after which he engaged in the grain business in the employ of H. M. Oliver & Co., and later with W. M. Vastine. In the fall of 1886 he embarked in the business for himself, and continued the same until 1889, being very successful. In 1887 he also engaged in his present business which has, through his untiring efforts, been brought up from one of no consequence and loss of money to a thriving and successful standard. It is now a well established plant. Mr. Johnson selected as his companion in life Miss Anna Cook, of New York, who became his wife in 1886. They have one child, Irene Lois. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is one of the progressive citizens of Hastings, and a man of unusual business ability.

William A. Jones, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb., came originally from Middlesex County, Conn., where his birth occurred in 1830. He is the son of William B. and Caroline (Stark) Jones, natives of Connecticut. The father followed agricultural and mechanical pursuits all his life in Connecticut, and died in that State in 1877. The mother died many years ago. William A. Jones attained his growth in his native State, and there received the rudiments of an education. Subsequently he attended Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Mass., and also attended commercial school under the tutelage of Nicholas Harris, at Hartford, Conn. He was then engaged as secretary and treasurer of a manufacturing company at Torrington, Conn., remaining there a number of years, and in 1856 he moved to Knox County, Ill., locating at Altona, where he was engaged in teaching school. After remaining thus employed for six years he moved to Toulon, Stark County, where he taught one year. He then returned to Altona, where, in 1864, he was appointed superintendent of Aurora schools, remaining in that capacity for six years and giving excellent satisfaction. Mr. Jones was married in Litchfield County, Conn., in 1852, to Miss Caroline E. Wilson, a native of that county, and the daughter of Darius and Clarissa (Treadway) Wilson, natives of Connecticut. Mr. Wilson was a mechanic by trade, was married in Connecticut, and in 1860 moved to Knox County, Ill. He and wife both died at the age of eighty years, he in 1880 and she in 1881. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Jones, Aurelia (Gillette) Treadway, remembered seeing Gens. Washington and Lafayette. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Jones was Stark by name, and he was a descendant of Gen. Stark. In 1870 Mr. Jones was elected president of the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, Ind. He was the original organizer of the same. He remained with this institution until 1880, when he resigned. Although it started with an enrollment of sixteen pupils, at the above mentioned date it numbered 600, and was in a flourishing condition when Mr. Jones resigned. In 1883 Mr. Jones moved to Adams County, Neb., where he has since made his home. He takes an interest in politics. His first presidential vote was cast for

Gen. Scott, Whig. He voted with the Republican party from its formation until 1888, when, according to conviction, he became a free trader, voted with the Democratic party and was a candidate for State Senator. By his marriage Mr. Jones became the father of five children (four living): Mary Elizabeth, died in Indiana at the age of sixteen years; Walter, married, and resides in Hall County, Neb.; Winthrop, Albert and Carrie, at home. Mr. Jones takes an interest in educational affairs, and his children have had the advantages afforded by good schools. He is one of the progressive farmers and stock raisers of the county, and is universally respected. When he first came to Adams County, Neb., Mr. Jones purchased 320 acres of land with 250 acres under cultivation, and to this he has since added 160, making 480 acres in this and Hall Counties. He has made many improvements in the way of buildings, and makes a specialty of the dairy business. His barns will shelter 100 head of cattle and twenty head of horses.

Thomas T. Jones, farmer and stock raiser, Pauline, Neb. Among those who have been a witness to the growth and development of the country in the last seventeen years stands the name of Thomas T. Jones, who settled on a tract of land, 160 acres, on Section 30, Little Blue Township, on March 10, 1873. He erected a dug out and sod house combined, and commenced improving his place. He was born in Wales in 1846, and was the eldest in a family of eight children born to the union of Thomas T., Sr., and Ellen (Owens) Jones, natives of England and Wales, respectively. The father was a farmer and laborer, and remained in the old country until 1881, when he came to Adams County, Neb., where his death occurred in 1884. The mother resides with our subject. The latter, when a boy, was a farm laborer, and later was engaged in slate quarrying. Previous to coming to the United States, on August 14, 1869, he was married in Wales to Miss Margaret Davies, a native of that country, and the daughter of Pierce and Jane (Williams) Davies, also natives of Wales. Her father, when a young man, worked in the slate quarries, and later became manager and slate merchant. He died in Wales, in July, 1882. The

mother is still living and resides in Wales. Thomas T. Jones, Jr., in June, 1871, took passage on a steamer at Liverpool, England, and after a pleasant voyage of ten days landed at New York, and from there went to Iowa City, Johnson County, Iowa, where he was engaged at farm labor. There he remained until coming to Nebraska as before mentioned. He has added to his farm from time to time, and is now the owner of 560 acres, all in a good state of cultivation, and has it nearly all paid for. He is also engaged in raising a good grade of stock, and fattened a car load last year. He is a Republican and is active in politics, is a member of the board of supervisors, and is now serving his third term, two in succession. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in their district, and are much esteemed members of the same. To their union have been born nine children, six now living: Thomas, Jennie, David, Nellie, Ann and Pierce. Three died in infancy. Mr. Jones passed through the grasshopper raids of 1874 and 1875, and everything looked discouraging, but he was not a man to be disheartened. He kept at work and is now enjoying the fruits of his labor.

Campbell D. Jones, farmer and stock raiser, Blue Hill, Neb. The career of Mr. Jones illustrates to a marked degree what can be accomplished where the qualities of industry and close application are supported by a willful determination to move forward in the affairs of the world, and a willingness to do himself what others might leave for some one else to perform. Born in Crawford County, Pa., in March, 1852, Mr. Jones is the son of Charles and Sarah (Oliver) Jones, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, respectively. The father was a successful farmer and moved to Knox County, Ill., where he located in 1861. He was a contractor on the railroad, and died about 1862. The mother died about 1872. Campbell D. Jones was reared and educated in Illinois, and from there moved to Nebraska in 1872, where he homesteaded a farm. He was one of the first to take a claim in Silver Lake Township, and he afterward went to Saline Township, where he remained about five months. He then returned to his claim and in 1873 put permanent improvements on the place which he has made

his home ever since. He has 160 acres all well cultivated, and has the requisites for a comfortable and happy home. He had about fifty acres in corn last year and forty acres in small grain. He was married in Adams County December 26, 1880, to Miss Sarah Mattock, daughter of Robert Mattock, and a native of Kalamazoo, Mich., although she was reared principally in Iowa, and was but fourteen years of age when she came to Nebraska. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jones were born three children: Katie, Ernest and Robert R.

James C. Kay, a leading citizen of the "Queen City" was born in Yorkshire, England, and like all his countrymen he possesses an unlimited amount of pluck and enterprise. His birth occurred June 23, 1826, he being a son of John and Ann (Cousins) Kay, who were also born in England, in 1776 and 1780, and died in New Haven, Conn., in 1857 and 1862, respectively. James C. Kay is the tenth of their eleven children and is the only one now living. In the year of 1846 he emigrated to the United States, and for almost one year he was a resident of York State, after which he removed to Connecticut, where he made his home for about eleven years, learning the moulder's trade in the meantime. In 1857 he came West, or to what was then the West, and purchased a farm in Lafayette County, Wis., and was there actively and successfully engaged in tilling the soil until 1881, when he came to Hastings, Neb., having previously purchased property here. He has been actively engaged in buying and selling real estate since his sojourn in Hastings, and is now the owner of two excellent farms in Adams County, near Hastings, besides nine houses, twenty-one improved lots, an interest in two of the leading business houses in the city, and one-half section near Culbertson. He has made his own way in life and his start was obtained by working in a foundry. He is one of the most enterprising men of Adams County, and is highly esteemed by all. In 1888-89 he was a member of the Adams County board of supervisors, and took a leading part in the affairs of that body, and to him must be accredited the first work in the erection of the Adams County court house. In 1854 he was married to Miss Caroline Burgess, who was born in England,

January 10, 1830, and was brought to the United States in 1848. They have seven children: Harriet E., James B., Henry D., Albert U., Charles F., Ida S. and Minnie H. A son, John W., died in 1881 at the age of fourteen years. Mr. Kay is a staunch Republican in his political views, and in 1874 was made a Mason at Darlington, Wis., and became a Knight Templar in Mount Nebo Commandery in Hastings in 1883, being present at the Masonic conclave which was held in Washington, D. C., in the fall of 1889. He also belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P.

Alvin H. Keller, pharmacist and physician, was born in Clarion County, Pa., April 4, 1853, and is a son of William Keller, who was born in 1818, also in the "Keystone State," and died there in 1883. His wife, formerly Catherine Kratzer, is a Pennsylvanian, born in 1832, and is now a resident of McCook, Neb. After attending the public schools for some time Dr. Keller became a student in the Clarion Institute, and at the age of sixteen years began serving an apprenticeship at the drug business in Oil City, Pa., and after acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business he had charge of a drug store in Philadelphia for six years. Here, in 1876, he graduated from the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy, and the following year took a special course in physics and clinics in the same city. In 1879 he determined to see what change of location would do for him in the way of acquiring wealth, and he accordingly came to Nebraska and took up his abode in Sutton, where he conducted a successful business for two years. He next entered the Omaha Medical College, from which he graduated in 1883; then returned to Sutton, continuing his former occupation, and built up an extensive and paying trade. He, however, disposed of his stock of goods in 1885 and located in Hastings, and in addition to carrying on a drug store has been engaged in practicing medicine for the past three years, and makes a specialty of urine analysis and the analysis of well and spring water. He is considered one of the best chemists in the State, and has compiled charts of chemistry and pharmacy, materia medica and perpetual clinical index. He is the originator of the Keller Medicine Company, and is

one of the foremost members of the medical fraternity in Adams County, and keeps thoroughly apace with the times, being a warm advocate of further advancement in the science. He is a Republican. In 1880 he was married to Miss Martha E. Brown, by whom he has two children: Edith M. and Samuel A.

William M. Kelley, farmer and stockman, Ayr, Neb. William M. Kelley, whose life has been an active one, and who has by his own industry and intelligent management secured a substantial footing among the citizens of this community, was born in Cass County, Ind., in 1844, and there he received a fairly good education. His parents, John P. and Margaret M. (Payne) Kelley, were natives of the Buckeye State. The father was born in 1816, and was a cabinet maker by trade, which occupation he continued, in connection with the carpenter trade, until his death, which occurred in Nebraska in 1876, whither he had moved in 1871. He was a successful business man and was a man who held a number of public offices in Stark County, Ind. The mother died in Adams County, Neb., in 1889. She was a member of the Christian Church, and he was a Universalist. Their children were named as follows: Harriet (deceased), Samuel, William M., Sarah and Scott. William M. Kelley started out in the battle of life for himself in 1866, and the year following was married to Miss Mary C. Speelman, the daughter of Peter Speelman, of Indiana. Mr. Kelley followed cutting timber in Indiana until 1871, and then emigrated to Nebraska, and was one of the very first settlers of Adams County. He entered 160 acres of land, and in connection with farming hunted and trapped for the first six or seven years after coming to the State. This he found paid him well. The last buffalo Mr. Kelley shot in Adams County was in 1874. He has killed many antelopes and trapped beaver, mink and otter. His married life has been blessed by the birth of six children: Marion, Philip, Wilbur, Hartford, Winnifred and Lena. Mr. Kelley is a Democrat and takes a great interest in political matters. He has been a member of the school board in District No. 9, Zero Township, and as a matter of course is interested in educational affairs. He has witnessed the entire growth of the country, and

has seen it change from a wilderness inhabited by Indians to its present prosperous condition. In 1872 he shot a buffalo in his door-yard, about thirty feet from where his house stands. He is one of the wide-awake farmers of the community, has his farm well stocked and has a fine orchard, together with plenty of small fruit. During 1888 he farmed 275 acres of land, and in 1889, 330 acres. Mr. Kelley is a natural musician and is a fine performer on the violin. His children all inherit a taste for music, and they have an orchestra in their family of five pieces. He is taking pains to give each of his children a good musical education.

James M. Kent, a member of the firm of Kent & Courtright, of Kenesaw, Neb., and one of the prominent business men of that place, was originally from Kendall County, Ill., where his birth occurred in December, 1844. He passed his boyhood days with his parents, and as they were pioneers of two States his educational advantages were limited. Upon obtaining his majority he began farming, and in 1873 came to Nebraska in company with his two brothers, taking up a claim near Kenesaw. He is now the owner of 240 acres of land, and is one of the progressive and enterprising men of the county. In the fall of the last mentioned year he brought his family out, and from that time up to 1883 he resided on this farm. He then removed to Kenesaw and became a member of the present firm, purchasing the livery business of J. G. Hayzlett, the pioneer liveryman of Kenesaw. Mr. Kent is a member of the town board, has served as constable and deputy sheriff of Adams County, and is a man who takes a deep interest in all general improvement, especially in educational matters. In 1871 he was married to Miss Henrietta L. Court-right, a native of Clinton County, Iowa, and the result of this union has been six children, one son and five daughters: Estella V., born in Cedar County, Iowa; Mary E., Hattie H., Jessie R. M., James M. and Pearl L., born in Adams County, Neb. Mr. Kent is the son of ex-Senator J. M. Kent, of Cedar County, Iowa, and his wife, Mary (*nee* Fergusson). The parents first located in Ohio; in 1842 they moved to where Plano now stands in Illinois, and in 1852 moved from there to Iowa,

and located in Cedar County, upon the farm he now owns.

Darwin C. Kerr is one of the intelligent and well posted men of Adams County, and since 1883 has been the owner of the Gen. Bowen homestead, which comprises 164 acres, and is situated one-half mile from Juniata. He was born in Lancaster, Erie County, N. Y., September 9, 1833, and is the sixth of nine children, five now living, born to Moses and Naomi (Sprague) Kerr, who were born in Scotland and Rhode Island in 1800 and 1803, and died in Erie County, N. Y., and Illinois, in 1854 and 1879, respectively. When quite a lad the father emigrated from his native land to Canada, and a short time later settled in Erie County, N. Y., where he followed the occupation of a farmer, and spent the rest of his days. Darwin C. Kerr received a common school education, but being of an enterprising disposition he determined to seek his fortune in the West, and in 1854 emigrated to Minnesota, thence to Iowa, from there to Missouri, and from there to Parke County, Ind., where, in June, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until December, 1862, when he was discharged on account of physical disability. After regaining some of his wanted strength he became an employe of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, first as station agent at St. Augustine, Ill., then at Riverside, next at Avon, and still later at Galva. He was connected with the railway service for eighteen years, and was one of the popular employes of the Burlington road for many years. After giving up his work he farmed in Illinois for two years, after which he came to Adams County, Neb. He is a Republican in politics, and during 1888-89 was a member of the county board of supervisors, and discharged his duties in a highly efficient manner. He was made a Mason at Avon, Ill., in 1866, joined the I. O. O. F. in Aurora, N. Y., in 1854, and is also a member of the G. A. R. October 8, 1865, he married Miss M. B. Vertrees, a native of Pike County, Ill., born November 3, 1839, and a daughter of John and Nancy (Bradbury) Vertrees, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Ohio. The father now resides in Galesburg, Ill., aged seventy-eight years, but the mother

died in 1887 at the age of seventy-three. To Mr. and Mrs. Kerr the following children have been born: Mary E., born at Avon, Ill., September 15, 1866; Frank V., born at Avon, November 16, 1867, died at Avon March 6, 1869; Kate L., born at Galva, Ill., October 6, 1869, now the wife of C. F. Royce, and Charles, who was born in Galva, December 17, 1871. Mrs. Kerr is a member of the Christian Church.

Charles Frederick Keutzer, general merchant. This gentleman is identified with the business interests of Adams County, and is a man of much energy, push and enterprise. He was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, near Frankfort-on-the-Main, December 13, 1849, being a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hepting) Keutzer, who came to America in 1864, and made a home in Peru, Ill., where their death occurred February 5, 1872, and July 16, 1871, respectively, both being earnest members of the Reformed Evangelical Church at the time of their demise. The father was a merchant tailor by occupation, and upon his death left two sons: Charles F., the subject of this biography, and John George, who died in his twenty-eighth year at Peru. A half-sister, Caroline Yost, now Mrs. Keutzer, resides near that place. Charles Frederick Keutzer received a fair English education, and in his youth acquired a thorough knowledge of merchandising. After following the occupation of agriculture in Illinois, until 1878, he came to Adams County, Neb., and continued this calling until September, 1889, when he left his farm to engage in merchandising in Holstein, and here has built up a good trade. He was married in Peru, September 28, 1871, to Miss Mary Annie Peters, a daughter of Christian and Mary (Mueller) Peters, both natives of Germany, and by her became the father of the following children: Oscar George, a student in a commercial college; Ottillia Rosina, Orwin Charles. Olinda Louisa, Ora Belle, Otto Henry, Gustav and Olga Augusta. Mr. and Mrs. Keutzer attend different churches, but in reality are believers in the doctrine of the Reformed Evangelical Church. Mr. Keutzer has served on the school board of his district for many years, and has been justice of the peace two years, besides holding a number of other

local offices of trust. He is a member of the Blue Lodge in the Masonic fraternity, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

Matthew Klein, farmer and stock raiser, Roseland, Neb. Among the many representative citizens of foreign birth in the county, none are more respected and esteemed than Mr. Klein, who owes his nativity to Prussia, Germany, where his birth occurred on February 2, 1843. He is the son of Nick Klein, a native of Prussia, who was married in the old country to Miss Barbara Klein, also a native of Prussia. The family emigrated to the United States in 1873, located in Ohio, where they remained for several years, and then moved to Kansas, locating at Beloit, Mitchell County. There the father died in 1889, respected and esteemed by all who knew him. The mother is still living and makes her home in Ohio. Matthew Klein was reared in Prussia, and learned the trade of mason and plasterer after coming to the States, whither he had emigrated in 1864. He first located in Lake County, Ind., but in 1868 went to Chicago, where he worked at his trade for nine years. He was there during the great fire in 1871, and six years later moved to Adams County, Neb. He located first in Hastings, where he resided for about four years, working at his trade, and then, in 1881, moved out to his place which he had bought when first coming there. He has 320 acres of fine land, all in one tract and under a good state of cultivation. He has a comfortable home and all the conveniences necessary to carry on the same. He was married in Hastings, Neb., in 1881, to Miss Katie George, a native of Prussia, where she was reared. To them have been born seven children: John, Mary, Katie, Mattie, Nick, Anna and Barbary. Mr. and Mrs. Klein are members of the Catholic Church, and he is a member of the school board.

W. Klingaman, farmer, Pauline, Neb. Mr. Klingaman, one of the pioneer settlers of Little Blue Township, and a man universally respected by all acquainted with him, owes his nativity to Columbia County, Pa., where his birth occurred in 1837, and remained on his father's farm until nineteen years of age. He then went to Philadelphia, where he learned the carriage-maker's trade, and from

there, in 1860, to Louisa County, Iowa, settling near Columbus City, Iowa, where he continued his trade. He was united in marriage at Lisbon, Linn County, Iowa, to Miss Mary A. Bussard, in 1863, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Gotschalk) Bussard, natives of Pennsylvania. The father is a minister of the Evangelical faith, and quite a prominent man. He moved to Louisa County, Iowa, in 1856, and settled in Columbus City Township, in 1863 going to Lisbon, Linn County. From that time he devoted all his time and talents to the ministry. He is now located at Independence, Iowa. The mother died at Spring Run, Iowa, in 1878. After his marriage Mr. Klingaman enlisted, at that place, on December 4, 1863, for three years, or during the war, and was mustered into service at Burlington, Iowa. He was assigned to the Western department, and was engaged in several hard fought battles, serving under Gens. Steele, Conby, Washburn and the famous Gen. Custer. He was honorably discharged at Austin, Texas, in February, 1866. Mr. Klingaman crossed the gulf to New Orleans, thence by river to Davenport, Iowa, where he was mustered out and received his discharge. After this he came to Adams County in 1876, where he entered a tract of land and set out a good orchard, at first living in a house built of logs and sod, but has now erected a good and substantial frame building. He owns 247 acres of land, and is engaged in the raising of stock. He is also one of the owners of a cheese factory, which he is engaged in running at Le Roy, and which is a very fine thing for the farming community. During the year 1889 Mr. Klingaman manufactured 26,000 pounds of cheese. He is not active in politics but votes with the Republican party. He has been township treasurer for two years. He takes an active interest in educational matters, and was a member of the school board for some time. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post at Ayr, being one of the charter members, and he is a strong temperance advocate. He and wife are Evangelical in belief. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Hastings Lodge No. 50. To his marriage were born ten children, eight of whom are now living: Oliver, engaged in the agricultural implement business at Blue Hill, Neb.; Laura, now

Mrs. A. D. McNeer, of Blue Hill, Neb.; Joseph, in San Francisco, Cal.; Charles, Wesley, Burt, Frank, who died in 1884 at the age of five years; Lloyd Garfield, Raymond Bliss and Fred. Mr. Klingaman came to Nebraska with very limited means, and has made all his property by his own pluck and industry. When he first settled in Adams County, Hastings contained but two or three small stores and no bank. He mortgaged his team the first year for a sack of flour, but since then he has surmounted all obstacles and is in a very prosperous condition. He was the seventh son of twelve children born to the union of Jacob and Lydia (Furry) Klingaman, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a millwright and a bridge carpenter, and worked for the railroad, erecting bridges. He moved to Ohio in 1845, in Auglaize County, where he was engaged in tilling the soil. He was killed by a runaway team. The mother died in the Keystone State in 1842.

John Kohl, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Among the many prominent citizens of foreign birth now residing in Adams County, very few, if any, are more respected than Mr. Kohl, who was originally from Rhineshire, Germany. His mother died when he was young and his father died in Illinois, in 1889. The latter, Jacob Kohl, emigrated to the United States, and settled in Boston in 1852, but moved from there one year later and settled in Marshall County, near Lacon, Ill. Of the seven children born to his marriage, John is the eldest, then Charley, Jacob, died in 1875; Fred, Henry, Michael and August. John Kohl was born in the old country in 1842, and was nine years of age when his parents came to the United States. He secured a fair education in the schools of Boston, Mass., and in 1859 emigrated with his parents to Illinois. He began to fight life's battles for himself in 1863 as an agriculturist, and was married, in Illinois, in 1871, to Miss Mary Roth, a native of Woodford County, Ill., and the daughter of Christopher Roth. The fruits of this union have been four living children: Charley A., Frank F., Anna M. and Clara E. They lost two, Minnie and Elizabeth. Mr. Kohl emigrated to Nebraska in 1875, bought eighty acres of land, and in 1889 increased this by an addition of 160 acres of excellent prairie land. He is one of

the progressive farmers of the county and owes his success to his own industry and perseverance. He and wife are members of the German Lutheran Church, in which they are active workers. He is a Democrat in his political views. He is interested in educational matters, and has been moderator for the school district in District No. 8.

Mortimer N. Kress, is a resident of Ayr, Neb. There are a number of men prominently identified with the growth and prosperity of the county, but none among them are more deserving of mention than Mortimer N. Kress. He owes his nativity to Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pa., where his birth occurred in 1841, and as early as 1865 he moved to Colorado, where the stirring life he experienced on the plains is faithfully outlined in another part of this volume. He was a great hunter and trapper, and although he killed his last buffalo in Adams County, Neb., in 1873, he still continued to hunt and trap in Kansas, Colorado and Texas to 1880. He has spent seventeen years of his life on the plains, and as might naturally be supposed he has seen some exciting and stirring times. Many and interesting are the stories related by this gentleman of the seventeen years spent by him on the plains, where his bed at night was either in the shadow of a camp-fire or frequently under the starry canopy of heaven. He is pleasant and agreeable in conversation, and is well known and respected among the old settlers of Nebraska to-day. At the time of the trouble with the Indians in 1873 he took quite a prominent part, and his name was in all the papers of the country. In 1880 he gave up his nomadic habits, and was united in marriage to Miss Helen Moote, whose acquaintance he had made while on a trip to Canada after coming west. She was the daughter of Isaiah and Mary A. Moote, of Canada. After marriage Mr. Kress ran a livery barn and hotel at Ayr, besides a store, and for some years past they have resided in that village. They are the parents of two children: Lena and Guy. Mrs. Kress is a member of the Presbyterian Church. In his political views Mr. Kress is a staunch Republican, and is interested in all the affairs of the county. He is a charter member of the G. A. R. Post at Ayr, and is at present the chaplain. He was elected

assessor of Ayr Township in 1889. Mr. Kress was the first settler in the county, and has been a witness to the rapid development of the same up to the present time. As a hunter and trapper he is of more than local repute, and is acquainted with every foot of land for miles around. He is at present living in retirement in Ayr.

F. W. Lanfear, manager of the grain firm of Oliver & Baker, Hansen, Neb. Although Mr. Lanfear in his active career thus far during life has not, perhaps, amassed the wealth that has fallen to the lot of others, he has gained to an unlimited extent the confidence and esteem always awarded integrity, honor and industry. He was born in Oneida, Knox County, Ill., in 1861, and came to Nebraska in the fall of 1882, where he entered the employ of the above mentioned firm. He was married in Hall County, Neb., in May, 1887, to Miss Ruby Freeman, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of David Freeman, who was originally from New York. Mr. Freeman moved from his native State to Illinois, and thence in an early day to Hamilton County, Neb., where he received his final summons. Mr. Lanfear is not active in politics, but votes with the Republican party. He has seen a vast change in the country since coming here, and has assisted in every laudable enterprise for the development of the same. Although young in years, he is one of the promising business men of Hansen, and has built up a good grain trade. He is the third of a family of five children born to the union of William and Saloma (Carr) Lanfear, natives of New York. His father was a farmer and followed this occupation in his native State until 1860, when he moved to Knox County, Ill., and there continued his former pursuit. His death occurred in 1877, but the mother is still living and resides in Knox County, Ill.

Ezra Langevin, president of the Wholesale Grocery Company, of Hastings, Neb., was born at Verchere, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, twenty-four miles below Montreal, on the St. Lawrence River, August 8, 1842. His parents, F. X. and Catherine (Girard) Langevin, were also born in Canada, the former's birth occurring in October, 1809, and his death in June, 1888. His grandfather, Victor Langevin was also a Canadian, born in 1749,

and was a captain in the English Army, when Gen. Montgomery made his raid into that country in 1775. He died at the age of ninety-one years. The great-grandfather was a Frenchman, who emigrated to Canada in 1737, settling on a farm twenty-four miles below Montreal, on the St. Lawrence River, which farm has been in possession of the family up to the present date, a period of 152 years. Ezra Langevin is the eldest of ten children, and resided on the old homestead on the St. Lawrence until he attained his eleventh year, when he was taken to St. Hyacinthe, and in January, 1861, came to the United States, being a resident of Fort Edward, New York, until 1878. Since that time he has resided in Hastings, Neb., and has since given his attention to the grocery business, being for some time a member of the firm of Langevin & Plamondon. Since the fall of 1889, however, he has been in the wholesale grocery business under the title of the Hastings Wholesale Grocery Company, which is incorporated and has a capital stock of \$20,000. He has a new business block located at the corner of First Street and Denver Avenue, which was built in 1889, and is very conveniently arranged, being 44x49 feet. Being compelled to make his own way in the world he has succeeded admirably, for which he deserves much credit. He is a Democrat in politics, and in 1886 was elected a member of the city council from the First ward, and was re-elected in 1888, filling this position to the satisfaction of all concerned. October 6, 1879, he was married to Miss Octavia Guilmette, who was born in Assumption, Ill., October 10, 1860, and their union has resulted in the birth of four children: Arthur (born May 1, 1881), Victor (born June 7, 1882), Agnes (born April 19, 1885), and Florence (born January 15, 1890). Mr. Langevin and his wife are prominent members of the Catholic Church. His mother was born in April, 1818, and died in Canada in 1862.

Dirk G. Lay is one of the wealthy farmers and stockmen of Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb., and like the majority of native Germans is thrifty, industrious and frugal. He was born in Hanover, in 1832, being the third child born to Geerd and Geeske (Huisenga) Lay, the former of

whom was a carpenter by trade, and a man of excellent business qualifications, becoming quite wealthy by his successful business ventures. He died in his native land in 1875, followed by his wife in 1878, both having been members of the Reformed Church. The names of their children are as follows: Ulderik, Geertge, Dirk G., Lammert, Klaas, Twaantje Geeske and Sarah. Like all German youths Dirk G. Lay received a good education, and while still a resident of his native land was married, in 1858, to Miss Margaretha Bouwmann, by whom he became the father of the following children: George (married and residing in Hanover Township, the father of four children, Margaret, Menno, Katie and Johan), Albertus (married and also residing in Hanover Township, the father of two children, Dirk and Dena), Lammert (married, a farmer of Hanover Township), Simeon (who died in 1878), Aalerich and Katie. Mr. Lay came with his family to the United States in 1868, and settled in Illinois, but after a nine months' stay there emigrated to Iowa, and made a location in Grundy County, where he remained six years, following the occupation of farming. In 1874 he came to Adams County, Neb., and took up 160 acres of school land on a lease, and by good management and strict attention to every detail of farm work, he has now in his possession 800 acres of land, all well improved. Three years after locating here he bought 160 acres at \$8 per acre, and three years later purchased another 160-acre tract at about \$11 per acre, and the following year purchased 160 acres more, paying the sum of \$11 per acre for this land also, and in 1886 bought 160 acres at \$27.50 per acre. He is a Republican, a man of keen business foresight, public spirited in every respect, and is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church, which he assisted in organizing and contributed liberally toward building. He was called upon to mourn the death of his estimable wife November 9, 1887, and is still living with his two children, Aalerich and Katie, on his farm which he first occupied.

Peter Lebric, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. This enterprising young agriculturalist is also numbered among the substantial and progressive citizens of the county, and his thorough

familiarity with agricultural pursuits has placed him prominently toward the front among the farmers of the township. He owes his nativity to Canada, where his birth occurred in 1854, and is the son of John and Ellen (Hawley) Lebric. The father was born in Canada in 1812, and followed farming the principal part of his life. To his marriage were born these children (four of whom moved to Nebraska): Phero, Exivia, Exalia, Peter, Francis, Frederick and Edmond. Several died in infancy. John Lebric moved to Illinois in 1855, settled in Christian County and made that his home. Peter Lebric passed his boyhood days in Illinois, and in 1874 moved to Adams County, Neb., where he now lives, and where he entered 160 acres of land, all now well improved. He chose for his companion in life Miss Eliza Ganreral, daughter of Prosper Ganreral, and was united in marriage to her in Nebraska in 1878. To this marriage have been born four children: Henry, Anna, Lizzie and Eddie (all at school). There were but few houses comparatively in the county when he first settled here, but many and great have been the changes since then. He takes a deep interest in religious and educational matters, and, in fact, all laudable enterprises tending to the good of the county. He and wife are members of the Catholic Church, and in his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party.

Herman Lepin, proprietor of the Lepin Hotel, Hastings, Neb. In respect to hotels Hastings is especially favored, and to the traveler in these Western states the name of Lepin has about it the ring of a familiar and tried friend, for its reputation as a model house has extended far and near. The proprietor, Mr. Herman Lepin, was born in Germany in 1832, and Adams County is indeed fortunate in having among her foreign-born element men whose industry, strict attention to business, economy and perseverance have produced such substantial results in the different affairs with which they have connected themselves. He emigrated to the United States in 1852, located at Lowell, Lake County, Ind., and was engaged in mercantile business at that place for nineteen years, but also conducted a grist, saw and woolen mills for eight years of that period. In 1871 he was engaged as traveling sales-

man in the hat and cap business at Chicago, and in the fall of 1873 he removed to Hastings, Neb., as general agent for McCormick's harvesting machines, which position he filled for one year. After this he was engaged in the hotel business, but was burned out September 16, 1879, subsequently building his present hotel. He opened the same under the style of "Lepin Hotel" on January 1, 1880, and his house is one of the most popular in the city. He has the best accommodations for forty persons, the service is polite and attentive, and everything makes it as comfortable as a home. He was married in 1864 to Miss Hermine Westermann, who was born in 1842, and they have one child, Louise. In politics Mr. Lepin is a Democrat, and socially he is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

Warren Letson, hardware merchant, Hastings, Neb. In giving descriptive accounts of the subdivisions of Hastings' trade, we find none occupying a more important position than that of the subject of this sketch, Warren Letson. He owes his nativity to Kenton, Ohio, where his birth occurred on March 16, 1843, and is the son of C. B. and Jane (Huston) Letson. The father was a native of New Jersey, and died in Iowa in 1872 at the age of fifty-eight years. The mother was born in Pennsylvania, is now a resident of Nevada, Iowa, and is sixty-three years of age. Of the six children born to their union Warren Letson is second in order of birth. He came to Iowa with his parents in 1858, received a common school education, and in 1874 emigrated to Hastings, Neb., where until 1884 he was engaged in the lumber business. After this he embarked in his present business, under the firm name of Dallas & Letson, which continued for five years. At the present time Mr. Letson is alone in the business and is doing remarkably well. He selected as his companion in life Miss Cella Baughn, a native of the Buckeye State, born in 1853, and their marriage was solemnized in 1874. They are the parents of three children: George A., Flora and Helen Frances. In his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party. He is one of the old settlers of the county.

George A. Lindsay, Kenesaw, Neb. Among the many citizens of foreign birth within the limits of Adams County is the subject of this sketch. Mr.

Lindsay owes his nativity to Angushire, Scotland, where his birth occurred near Montrose on December 17, 1843. His parents, John A. and Jane (Mitchell) Lindsay, were both natives of Scotland, where they lived and died. Their family consisted of three sons, George A. being the youngest. At the age of fourteen years he began to learn the machinist trade, serving an apprenticeship of seven years, after which he began working at his trade at Dundee, and there remained until 1868. Then, in company with his two brothers, Alexander and Thomas, he came to America and landed at New York. From there they journeyed westward and located at Irvington, Neb.; thence to Washington County, Neb., where they took up land near Kennard. Thomas still resides there, but Alexander removed to California in 1889. George A. resided in Washington County, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, until 1873, and then removed to Juniata, where he still continued to till the soil until 1881. He then moved to Kenesaw and engaged with J. M. Sewell & Co., doing an extensive business in the buying and shipping of grain from this point. In 1873 he married Miss Ann Eliza Brosius, and the fruits of this union have been a son, Arkley N. B. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Kenesaw, and he is a trustee in the same. In his political views Mr. Lindsay affiliates with the Republican party. He comes of a sturdy line of ancestors, whose sterling integrity of purpose has manifested itself in his success.

Alfred Linegar, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Linegar on starting out in life for himself chose as his calling the file maker's trade, which he carried on for seventeen years. Later he engaged in the pursuit of farming, and to this end has put forth all his energies, and not without substantial results. He was born in Birmingham, England, in 1836, and was married in his native country about 1861, to Miss Mary Galliers, daughter of Edmond Galliers, a native of England. In 1867 Mr. and Mrs. Linegar crossed the ocean to the United States, first settled at Dwight, Ill., and there followed agricultural pursuits for one year. He then moved around for some time, but at last settled at Yorkville, Kendall County, Ill., where he remained

until 1883, cultivating the soil all the time. In 1883 he emigrated to Nebraska, located in Blaine Township, and there he now resides. He purchased 160 acres of land, only a few acres of which were improved, went to work on it and now has a good house, substantial outbuildings, cribs, etc., and has a nice orchard. To his marriage were born five living children: Ada (now Mrs. Huxtable, of Blaine Township), Ernest (died in 1886), William, Carrie, Alfred and Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Linegar are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are esteemed and respected by all who know them. Mr. Linegar takes much interest in the upbuilding of schools and churches, and lends a ready hand to all laudable purposes. He was the fourth of ten children born to Samuel and Mary (Bevens) Linegar, the father being a manufacturer of buttons in his native country (England). Both parents are deceased, the former in 1856 and the latter in 1887, and both in England. Their children were named as follows: Eliza (deceased), Harriet (deceased), William (residing in Blaine Township, Adams County, Neb.), Alfred, Edward, Charles, Mary, Alice, Nellie and Fannie.

William M. Lowman has been identified with the interests of Adams County, Neb., for some time, and probably there is no man within its limits who is as extensively engaged in the real estate business as he. He first saw the light of day in Stark County, Ill., August 11, 1856, being the second of four living children born to Davis and Anne M. (Williams) Lowman, the former of whom was born in Highland County, Ohio, February 3, 1827. He was united in marriage in Knox County, Ill., April 27, 1853, to Miss Williams, and made Stark County his home until 1878, when he settled in Hastings, Neb., and from that time until his death was one of the most active business men in this portion of the State, conducting a very extensive real estate business. He was universally respected as a man of sound judgment, strict integrity and progressive views, and in matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of Hastings and Adams County he was ever ready and willing to do all in his power. Careful, prudent and economical, he was open hearted and generous withal, filled with the "milk

of human kindness," and his many acts of charity endeared him to the hearts of all who knew him. In the death of Mr. Lowman, which occurred in October, 1886, the city lost one of her best citizens, and the church to which he belonged an earnest worker. Out of respect to his memory the mayor caused the following proclamation to be issued: "Out of respect to the memory of D. Lowman, who for eight years has been one of our most active and esteemed citizens, I most respectfully request the business men of the city to close their respective places of business from 10 to 11 o'clock A. M., October 28, this being the hour of the funeral. Samuel Alexander, mayor." The widow of Mr. Lowman was born in England, and now resides in Denver, Col. William M. Lowman, whose name heads this brief sketch, received an excellent education in Wheaton College, of Wheaton, Ill., and later entered Eastman's National Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., from which institution he graduated in March, 1877, coming the following year to Hastings, where he has since been dealing in real estate, in which work he was associated with his father until the latter's death, and has since been alone. He is also interested in stock raising, and the manner in which he conducts his affairs shows that he inherits many of his talented father's sterling business qualifications. He is vice-president of the German National Bank, and is treasurer of the Adams County Agricultural Society. He is a Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield. In September, 1881, he was united in marriage to Miss Florence M. Garratt, who was born in Belleville, Ontario, in 1863. They have one child, Vera (born December 7, 1882).

James B. McCleery (deceased). Nature seems to have intended Mr. McCleery for a long and more than ordinarily useful life, but he was cut down in the full vigor of his manhood October 4, 1889, at his farm in Little Blue Township, when fifty-one years of age. He was born in Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio, and was the second child born to Daniel and Mary A. (Adams) McCleery, the former a native of the "Keystone State" and a hatter by trade. About 1835 he moved to Ohio, and settled at Warren, where he followed his trade, was married,

and reared a family of six children: Adams, James B., Anna, Daniel, John and Samuel. About 1860 he moved to Kansas, thence to Colorado and still later to Montana, where he died in 1875. James B. McCleery spent his youth in his native State, and was twenty years old when he went with his parents to Kansas. About the year of 1858 he started out in life for himself, and in 1871 removed to Adams County, Neb., where he entered 160 acres of land, and was married in 1874 to Miss Carrie Arnold, a daughter of Oscar and Maria (Deviney) Arnold, natives of York State, and Henry County, Ill., respectively. The father removed to the latter place in an early day, becoming one of its pioneer settlers, but in the month of April, 1888, he died in Webster County, Neb., whither he had moved in 1874. His wife survives him and resides in Webster County. Mr. McCleery was elected sheriff of Adams County in 1873, serving until 1877, and a portion of this time lived in Juniata, and the rest of the time on his farm. At the expiration of his term of office he retired to his farm and entered extensively in the occupation of farming and stock raising, his operations meeting with very flattering results, and he became the owner of 1,400 acres of land, and had 400 acres under an excellent state of cultivation. In 1884 he was elected on the Republican ticket to the office of treasurer of Adams County, and this position filled with ability and to the satisfaction of all concerned for four years. Not only was he interested in the political affairs of the county, but in social matters as well, and he was a generous contributor to schools, churches and other worthy enterprises. He was a member of the Masonic order, having advanced to the Commandery, and belonged to Juniata Lodge. In 1861 he enlisted in Company M, First Colorado Cavalry, for three years, and served faithfully and well until 1864, when he received his discharge. From the time he left the service until he came to Adams County, Neb., he was dealing in cattle throughout the West, and on coming to Nebraska brought a large drove with him. Since his death his widow has successfully managed his farm, and with her reside her children, whose names are James C., John W., Carl K., Daniel R., Mary G., Thomas T., Carrie G. and Edna M.

Willis Pearson McCreary, attorney-at-law. This member of the Hastings bar is to the "manor born," and is a true type of the progressive, business-like and painstaking lawyer, is concise in argument and thoroughly posted in legal lore. November 8, 1854, was the date of his birth in Lawrence County, Pa., and he is one of two children born to Pearson and Nancy (Dean) McCreary, both natives of Lawrence County, Pa., the former's birth occurring in 1829 and the latter's in 1831. Mr. McCreary's father died in the State of his birth in 1856. He followed the occupation of farming and stock dealing throughout life, his only brother having died the year previous. His mother and two daughters (by second husband) lost their lives in the terrible railroad disaster at Chatsworth, Ill., on August 10, 1887. In 1865 the family removed with her from Pennsylvania to Iowa, where she made her home for many years. Willis P. McCreary first attended the country schools and later entered an academy of Lee County, finally supplementing his education with an attendance at the State University at Iowa City, graduating from there June 28, 1876, in the law department. In July of that year he opened an office in Cedar Rapids, where he continued the practice of his profession until 1884, at which time he came to Hastings, and is now a member of the law firm of Capps & McCreary, which association was formed in 1886. Being compelled to make his own way in life, he first engaged in teaching school, continuing for two winters after he had reached the age of seventeen years, but concluded that this was rather a laborious way of making money, and accordingly fitted himself for the practice of law, in the prosecution of which he has succeeded far beyond his expectations. He is a Republican in politics, and since 1883 has been a Mason. In 1878 he wedded Mary B., daughter of William Greene, of Iowa, her birth occurring in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, October 20, 1858. They have three children: Mary Pearson, Willis M. and Dorothy.

H. B. McGaw, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. This most successful and progressive agriculturist is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth occurring in Stark County in 1842, and is the son of John E. and Anna (Earl) McGaw. The

father was born at Chambersburg, Pa., in 1813, was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and ministered to the spiritual wants of his fellowmen all his life. He reared a family of five children: Carroll (in the east), Hugh (in Pittsburgh, Pa.), Mary (now Mrs. McLain, wife of Prof. B. W. McLain, of Athens College, Tennessee), H. B., and Homer L. (who is a public man and is living in Pittsburgh, Pa.). The mother of these children died in 1869, but the father is still living and makes his home in Athens, Tenn. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James F. McGaw, was a soldier in the War of 1812. H. B. McGaw's early life was passed in Ohio, and at the breaking out of the war he enlisted at McConnellsville, Ohio, in Company C, Ninety-seventh Ohio Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, Capt. S. S. Scott, under Col. I. Q. Lane. He enlisted for three years, entering as a corporal, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He was in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and in some skirmishes. He was discharged in July, 1865, and afterward went to Pittsburgh, Pa., thence to Iowa, and later settled in Benton County, near Cedar Rapids, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He resided in Iowa for about eleven years. He was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Julia A. Boyd, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Rev. John and Martha (MacLewain) Boyd, her father being a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Boyd was the father of eight children, four of whom are now living. He now makes his home with his son-in-law, H. B. McGaw. The mother died in 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. McGaw were born five children: Alice M. (teacher), Harold L., Lulu, Mabel and Agnes. Mr. McGaw followed farming in Iowa until 1876, when he emigrated to Nebraska and settled on his present property, where he has eighty acres of land, all under cultivation. He has been a member of the school board for ten years, was elected county supervisor in 1887 and served one term, and is at present justice of the peace. He is a member of the G. A. R., also a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is county secretary and treasurer of the same; is a member of the K. of L., has been judge of the order, and is a man universally respected. He was for-

merly a Republican in his political views, but now votes for principle, not for party. He is interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches, and all things for the good of the county. When he first settled in Adams County deer, wolves, antelope, and all such game were abundant.

M. J. McKenna, one of the pioneers of Highland Township, Adams County, Neb., came to this county in 1875, settled where he now resides, and purchased 160 acres of prairie land. He owes his nativity to Tipperary County, Ireland, where his birth occurred in 1830, and is the eldest of six children born to Patrick and Catherine (Quinn) McKenna, natives also of Ireland. The father was a tiller of the soil, and died in his native country in 1842. The mother died in 1830. M. J. McKenna was early taught the duties of farm life, and received his education in the schools of Ireland. When twenty-one years of age he resolved to try his fortune in the New World, and in March, 1851, he sailed from Liverpool on the vessel "George A. Hapley," making the trip to America in two months. He landed in Charleston, S. C., remained there one year, and then moved to New York City, where he worked in a brick yard, and there remained until 1856. In November of the year previous he was married to Miss Mary Delaney, a native of Tipperary County, Ireland, and in 1856 he moved to Wisconsin, Dodge County, where he followed farming. He purchased and improved a good farm in that State, but in 1875 he concluded to make a change, and moved to Adams County, Neb. He is the owner of a good farm of 320 acres, in that and Hall Counties, all under cultivation. He is making a specialty of raising Poland Angus cattle and Norman horses. In his political views Mr. McKenna affiliates with the Democratic party. He is the present supervisor of Highland Township, and he was also the assessor of the township for four or five years. He has always taken a deep interest in educational matters, and was a member of the school board for five or six years. He is a member of the Catholic Church at Hastings, as was also his excellent wife, who received her final summons in August, 1889, they having been companions in life for nearly thirty-four years. She was a kind and

loving wife and mother, and assisted her husband in all his work. Their family consisted of ten children, nine now living: Catherine (now Mrs. Montague, of Hastings), Patrick (married and lives in McCook, Neb.), John (married and resides in Highland), Ann (now Mrs. Gamrean, of Hastings), Mary, James, Edward, Joseph and Thomas. William died in 1878, at the age of eighteen years.

K. W. McKenzie, farmer and stockman of Adams County, Neb., was born in Nova Scotia in 1847, being the fourth of eleven children born to the marriage of John McKenzie and Christina Kerr, both of whom were of Scotch descent, the father having been born in Scotland in 1815. When about seven years of age he went to Nova Scotia, and there reared the following family of children: Murdock, Elizabeth, Jessie, K. W., Annabel, Donald, Maggie, William, John, Mary J. and Hugh. After living in Nova Scotia until 1851, Mr. McKenzie removed his family to Upper Canada, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits there until 1887, when his death occurred, his wife dying the same year. They were worthy and consistent members of the Baptist Church. K. W. McKenzie emigrated to Michigan in 1866, and was engaged in lumbering and carpentering in the northern part of the State until 1873, when he removed to Adams County, Neb., and took up a homestead claim of 160 acres, and by careful, painstaking and earnest labor, has increased his acreage to 400, it being well improved and excellently stocked. He has devoted all his time and attention to agriculture, and has met with more than ordinary success, everything about his place showing that a wide-awake gentleman is at the head of affairs. His marriage occurred in 1879, at which time Miss Sarah C. Curry, a daughter of Josiah and Jemimah B. (Beaber) Curry, became his wife. The parents were born in Ohio, and in 1878 removed to Webster County, Neb. Their children are: Mary E., Sarah C., Jacob B., Daniel W. and William D. Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie have a family of four children: Pearl F., Ellis L., Ethel May and Mamie C. Mr. McKenzie is a man who is interested in the improvement of his county, and in his political views is a Republican. Since his removal to Nebraska he has shot a number of buffaloes.

Neil R. Macalaster, the subject of this sketch, has been a successful practitioner of dentistry in Hastings since 1885. Born in Oxford County, Me., August 14, 1844, his parents, Peter and Ruth (Bryant) Macalaster, were also born in that State, the former's birth occurring in Oxford County, March 8, 1801, and the latter's in York County in 1809. The father is now a resident of Lovell, and the mother died in 1878. Dr. Macalaster is the tenth of thirteen children, nine of whom are now living. His parental grandfather, Zaccheus Macalaster, was born and spent his life in Oxford County, Me., living to a ripe old age. The maternal grandfather, Benjamin Bryant, was an Englishman by birth, and was killed at the battle of Waterloo. Dr. Neil Macalaster, after being reared to a farm life and receiving his education in the common schools, left home and with the determination to acquire a better knowledge of the "world of books" entered Freyburg Academy, where his course was marked by rapid progress. In 1860 he went to Nova Scotia, and for five years was a resident of Halifax, during which time he was in the office of his brother, Oris P. Macalaster, in the study of dentistry. At the end of this time he returned to the United States, and after a two years' residence at Freyburg removed to Portland, and with his brother, who had returned from Halifax, engaged in business under the firm name of Macalaster Bros., which connection continued from 1869 to 1878, when the Doctor purchased his brother's interest, and conducted the business alone there until 1885, on September 24 of that year moving to Hastings, Neb., where he established his present office. He is one of the leading dentists of this region, and has obtained a liberal share of public favor, the best proof of his skill and talent. He is a member of the Nebraska Dental Association, and in his politics is Independent. He joined the I. O. O. F. in Lovell, Me., in 1868, but is now a member of Hastings Lodge. He was married in the "city of brotherly love" August 11, 1876, to Miss Ella F. Barrows, born in Boone County, Ill., November 1, 1854, and a daughter of Asahel and Arvilla (Nason) Barrows. Mr. Barrows was born in Vermont in the year 1829. Mrs. Barrows was born in New Hampshire in the year 1830.

They are both living in Hastings. To Dr. and Mrs. Macalaster a son was born February 12, 1887, and died July 6, 1887. His name was Melvin Lyman.

Alvin T. Mecham, retired farmer, Kenesaw, Neb. That a life time spent in pursuing one occupation will in the end result in substantial success, where energy and perseverance are applied, cannot for a moment be doubted, and such is found to be the case with Mr. Mecham, who from boyhood has given his attention principally to agricultural pursuits. He is at present the owner of 160 acres of the best land in this section, situated one and a half miles south of the village of Kenesaw, and is one of the progressive citizens of the county. He was born in Mercer County, Pa., October 14, 1834, and is the son of Caleb and Mary (Currier) Mecham, both natives of New Hampshire, the father born in 1810, and the mother in 1813. Both came to Pennsylvania with their parents in 1817, and both were descendants of prominent families of New England. In the early days of New Hampshire the great-grandfather's family was massacred by Indians, two little sons alone escaping. When Alvin T. Mecham was sixteen years of age, he came with his parents to Illinois, and settled with them in Grundy County, where the father died in 1852. The mother still survives and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Thomas Farabee, at Juniata, Neb.. Of a family of eight children, Alvin T. was second in order of birth. He attained his growth in Grundy County, and received his education in the subscription schools in Pennsylvania. In 1856 he married Miss Lucy Booth, a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, and the daughter of Truman and Rebecca (Percy) Booth, natives of Connecticut. The Percy family trace their ancestry in this country back to two brothers, who came to America previous to the Revolutionary War and served in the same. Mrs. Booth was a niece of Lord Percy. Truman Booth and Miss Rebecca Percy were married at Waterbury, Conn., in 1814, and emigrated to Ohio at an early day. There Truman Booth died. A number of years after, in 1854, the mother removed to Grundy County, Ill., and there died in 1882, at the age of eighty-eight years. Edward R. Booth and Oliver J. Booth, brothers of Mrs. Mecham, had moved to

Grundy County in 1846, and were among the pioneers of that county. They received their final summons there, and both were prominent citizens, holding many positions of trust and honor in that county. After residing three years in Livingston County, Ill., in 1865 Mr. and Mrs. Mecham located in Kankakee County, Ill., and in 1878 moved to Nebraska, locating one and a half miles south of Kenesaw, where as before stated, they have 160 acres of excellent land. In 1883 Mr. Mecham retired from active business and removed to Kenesaw, where he has a pleasant home. Mr. Mecham is a carpenter by trade and has done considerable contracting and building in Kenesaw. To his marriage have been born two children: Chloe R. (now Mrs. Horace G. Armitage, of Kenesaw), and Clinton Percy (who is married, is a farmer, and resides in Kenesaw).

E. E. Merritt, editor of the Daily and Weekly Nebraskan, comes of a long line of New England ancestry, and was born at Burlington, Vt., February 6, 1845, with a twin brother named Edgar. He is a son of Crittenden and Sarah (Ranney) Merritt, who moved West in 1851, and located in Janesville, Wis., moving from there to Sparta, Wis., in 1857, their first year's residence at this place being on a farm. The father died May 20, 1876, at the age of seventy years, and the mother in April, 1863, at the age of fifty-five years. E. E. Merritt, the immediate subject of this memoir, attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, but March 21, 1859, began serving a regular apprenticeship at the printers' trade in the office of the Sparta (Wis.) Herald, continuing there until 1861 when he went to La Crosse, Wis., and finished his trade in the Republican office, which was situated in the same building where "Brick" Pomeroy published the Democrat, and started on the road to fame. In the spring of 1863 he acted as cabin boy on a steamer plying between Memphis and Vicksburg, and a year later enlisted as a private in Company G, Fortieth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, and during the summer of that year was stationed on picket duty in the rear of Memphis, and was present when Forrest made his celebrated raid into that city. In the fall of that year he was mustered out of service and returned to Wisconsin, and during the winter of that

year worked on a paper called the Union Flag, which was published at Neillsville, Wis., a lumbering town on the Black River, and the county seat of Clark County. In the spring of 1865 he went to St. Louis, Mo., and after "subbing" on cases, obtained a regular situation as a compositor on the Democrat. In the fall of 1866 he returned to Neillsville, Wis., and with John S. Dore founded the Clark County Journal, but returned to St. Louis four months later, again working on the Democrat, before the Globe was known. In the fall of 1867 he again returned to Neillsville, and started the Clark County Republican, and there continued as its editor and proprietor until the spring of 1874, when he sold out to C. J. Cooper. He was deputy under the census marshal of the State in 1870 and gathered the statistics of Clark County, and was elected for the district of Jackson and Clark Counties as assemblyman member of the Lower House of the State Legislature in 1872, serving during the winter session of 1873. He was chairman of the committee on Legislative expenditures, and was a member of printing, privileges and elections standing committees. He removed to the State of Iowa in the summer of 1875, and became editor and proprietor of the Victor Index. In the winter of 1878 he was second assistant of the Iowa Senate, and in the spring of that year was appointed postal clerk in the railway mail service on the Iowa Central Railroad, running between Mason City and Ottumwa, continuing the publication of his paper at the same time. In the fall of 1879 he moved with his family to Ottumwa, soon after moving his office, and in connection with William McClelland established a job office. About 1880 he left the road, sold his office, and became city editor of the Ottumwa Democrat, and later occupied the same position on the Ottumwa Courier. In 1882 he returned to the road by new appointment, and by special leave of absence from the post office department served during the summer of 1883 as secretary of the Republican State central committee under Chairman W. A. McGrew. In January, 1885, he was promoted to the position of head clerk between Burlington and Council Bluffs, on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, but resigned this position the May following Cleveland's inauguration and became State agent

for an insurance company, and secretary of the Wapello County Agricultural Society. In the fall of 1885 he leased a half interest in the Mitchell County Press, at Osage, Iowa, but gave it up the following January, and went to Huron, Dak., where he compiled a directory of that city, at the same time doing more or less work on the Daily Huronite, the following summer taking a directory of Watertown, Dak., and for a short time became a traveling correspondent of the Sioux Falls Daily Press. In 1886 he organized the Dakota Gazetteer and Business Directory Company, and was its manager. He canvassed the lines of the Northern Pacific & Manitoba Railroads in Dakota, and in the spring of 1887 went to Sioux City, Iowa, and was city editor of the Daily Tribune throughout the summer. In the fall of that year he came to Hastings, Neb., and the following January accepted the position of city editor of the Daily Gazette Journal, but this position resigned on August 1, and with John A. Creath bought of Dr. H. P. Fitch, the Nebraskan, then a weekly paper. On November 13, 1888, the day after the failure of the Gazette-Journal, they started the Daily Nebraskan, which paper is regarded as one of the best in the State. Mr. Merritt and Mr. Creath are admirable newspaper men, and their progressive ideas are reflected in every corner of their paper; and its management, which has had a most flattering increase in its circulation since it came into their possession. On November 30, 1871, Mr. Merritt was united in marriage to Miss Mattie A. Williams, at Homestead, Johnson County, Iowa, and their union has been blessed in the birth of three children: Mabel (born September 21, 1872), Maude (born April 23, 1876), and Edgar C. (born February 13, 1878).

Nicholas Metzger, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein, Neb. The estate upon which Mr. Metzger now resides, and to which he has given such close attention in the cultivation, embraces 400 acres, with about 300 acres under cultivation, substantial and convenient buildings being a leading feature of these improvements. He is numbered among the thrifty, foreign-born residents of the county, having been born in Bavaria, Germany, on November 6, 1837. His parents, Martin and Barbara (Google) Metzger, were also natives of that country, and emigrated to

the States in 1851, locating in Wisconsin. There both parents died in Washington County. Nicholas Metzger came with his parents to the United States, and resided with them until about fifteen years of age, when he began working out by the month. After growing up he engaged in the brewery business in Washington County, Wis., and continued at this for several years. In 1873 he sold out and moved to Nebraska, settled in Adams County, and entered land adjoining the town of Holstein. He afterwards sold this and bought his present property. He filled the office of township collector and treasurer for some time, and to the satisfaction of all. While living in Washington County, Wis., he was married, in 1863, to Miss Pauline Hohlfeld, a native of Germany, but who was reared in Wisconsin. To this union have been born seven children: George, Alma (wife of Charles Kune), Frank, Adolph, Charles, Hattie and Oscar. Mr. and Mrs. Metzger are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Metzger enlisted in the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry in 1861, and served until discharged for disability in 1862.

J. C. F. Milliken, farmer, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Milliken, who is also numbered among the substantial and representative citizens of Eastern birth in Highland Township, came originally from Greene County, Pa., where his birth occurred in 1856, and is the fifth of seven children born to the marriage of Jonas and Elizabeth (Hughes) Milliken, natives of the Keystone State, where they are still living, the father engaged in tilling the soil. J. C. F. Milliken assisted his father on the farm, received his education in the schools of Pennsylvania, and commenced farming for himself in his native State in 1880. He was married in his native county that year to Miss Bell Rinehart, a native of Greene County, Pa., and the daughter of W. H. and Ruth A. (Bowen) Rinehart, natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents are both living, and the father is a prominent stock dealer. In 1883 Mr. Milliken and family moved to Adams County, Neb., purchased 160 acres of land, with twenty-five acres in tillable condition, and now have it all under cultivation. Mr. Milliken is raising a good grade of cattle, and is one of the progressive men of the county. He is the

present township assessor, elected in 1888, and has also been school treasurer two terms, being quite active in educational matters. He is active in politics, votes with the Republican party, and he and wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To their union were born three children: George, Lauren and Ruth.

James P. Miltimore keeps an exceptionally complete livery, feed and sale stable in the city of Hastings, Neb., and is a native of York State, where he was born January 10, 1842, being one of two surviving members of a family of children born to Pardon and Elmina (Lampson) Miltimore, who were also born in that State. They died in the State of Wisconsin, the father in Jonesville, and the mother in Albany. James P. Miltimore, at the very early age of seven years, was cast upon the world to seek his own fortune, and for a number of years found it most difficult to secure a livelihood. Having always been of an ambitious disposition, he put his heart in his work, and as time went on succeeded in accumulating considerable means. For a number of years prior to his coming to Adams County in June, 1873, he was engaged in the grain business in Wisconsin, but on coming to this county he settled about four miles from Hastings and opened a livery stable in the town, also carrying on a dray and transfer business, and being industrious and prudent he soon established an excellent business. This calling received his attention until the fall of 1881, after which he spent a number of years in buying and selling horses, and in 1887 opened the livery stable which he is now successfully conducting. His stables are excellently fitted up with all kinds of vehicles, among which are two handsome hearse, and the animals which he keeps are all in excellent condition and are ready for use at all times. For some time during the war he drove a government team, and for one year was a member of Company I, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and is now a member of the G. A. R. His marriage to Miss Eliza Rawley was celebrated in 1870, but he was called upon to mourn her untimely death three years later, her body being taken to Wisconsin for burial. In 1880 Mr. Miltimore espoused Miss Idell Willoughby, by whom he has three children:

Ginevra, James L. and Bliss W. (the last two being twins).

John D. Mines, city treasurer, Hastings, Neb. A glance at the lives of many representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal sketches of some honored, influential citizens, but none more worthy or deserving of mention than John D. Mines. This gentleman was originally from Ingersoll, Canada, where his birth occurred on July 9, 1856, and is the son of Robert and Christina (Morrison) Mines, who were of Irish and Scotch descent. John D. Mines was reared and educated in his native country, and there learned the trade of cutter in a tailoring establishment. At the age of eighteen he came to the United States and followed his trade in Chicago until 1878, when he emigrated to Lincoln, Neb., and thence the following year to Hastings, where he has followed the occupation of cutter for the large clothing and merchant tailoring establishment of Barnes Bros. He is a Republican in politics, and was elected city clerk in 1886, serving two years. He was then elected treasurer in 1888, and this position he now fills in an able and efficient manner. He was married on November 21, 1883, to Miss Irene E. Myers, a native of West Virginia, and to this union has been born one child, a daughter, Hazel C. Mr. Mines is a member of the Modern Woodmen Order and K. of P., and is recognized as one of Hastings' eminent and most successful young business men and citizens.

Hon. Hugh Carter Minnix is a man who seems to be well adapted to the occupation of a planter, and in the pursuit of this calling, as well as in the occupation of stock raising, he has been more than ordinarily successful. He was born in Waterloo, Fayette County, Ohio, January 7, 1830, and is a son of Elijah B. and Rachel (Dyer) Minnix, who were born in West Virginia, and came from near Winchester. The Minnixes date their advent in this country to about the time of the Revolutionary War, when a worthy member of the family, probably the first of the name in America, did honorable service as a soldier in that memorable war. The presumption is that he settled in Virginia, married, and had born to him Elijah B., the father of the subject of

this sketch. Rachel Dyer was a daughter of Isaac Dyer, a soldier in the War of 1812, from Virginia. Hon. Hugh Carter Minnix was one of two sons and three daughters, only himself and two sisters now living, and his earliest recollections are those of spending his time upon the home farm and in attending the common schools of his native State. In 1857 he located in Champaign County, Ill., and was engaged in the occupation of agriculture until the opening of the Civil War, and in 1862 enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which company he helped to raise, and did honorable service until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged as a non-commissioned officer, on June 30, 1865, at Chicago. He was at Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. After the war Mr. Minnix returned to his plow in Champaign County, and here continued to make his home until 1873, when he came to Nebraska and made investments in Webster and Adams Counties, which interests have occupied his attention more or less ever since, as he buys and sells considerable real estate during the year. He was married in Fayette County, Ohio, to Miss Catherine Mouser, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Mouser, natives of Virginia. Mr. Minnix and his wife have a family of six sons and two daughters, only the following of whom are living: John Q. (a substantial farmer of Logan Township), Warren A., and Elijah S. (a resident of Logan Township). William I. died at the age of ten months; Hugh C. was a blacksmith by trade, and died in his twenty-fourth year; Elizabeth J. became the wife of William H. Remer, and died when twenty-eight years of age, leaving a son; Lydia A., who married W. E. Munson, died in her twenty-ninth year, leaving two daughters and a son. Mr. Minnix has always taken an active interest in G. A. R. circles, and held different official positions in Rocky Face Post during its existence at Morseville. He has been a member of the county board of supervisors for three years, and during the sessions of 1887-88 he represented his county in the State Legislature, and served with credit and distinction on the committees of public lands and buildings, cities

and towns, and claims, besides on several special committees. He is now president of the Agricultural Society of Adams County, and is a member of the State Board of Agriculture. In his political views he is a staunch Republican. In every walk of life he has been honorable and upright in his dealings, and is universally respected and esteemed for his many worthy qualities.

John B. Monlux, superintendent of city schools, Hastings, Neb. There is probably no man within the limits of Adams County who is deserving of more credit for the interest he has taken in its behalf than Mr. Monlux; and the brief facts here presented indicate to more than an ordinary degree the relations he has borne to the county's development, especially so in educational matters. He owes his nativity to Guernsey County, Ohio, his birth occurring near North Salem, July 18, 1855, and is the son of Samuel and Agnes (Clark) Monlux, natives of Ohio County, Va., and Guernsey County, Ohio, respectively. John B. Monlux moved with his parents to Monroe, Jasper County, Iowa, in 1869, and there received a liberal education in the common and high schools. In 1873 he entered the Iowa State University, graduating from the classical course in 1878, and afterward taught school near his home until 1879. After this he became assistant in the high schools of Oskaloosa, Iowa, and subsequently became principal of the same, which he conducted for two years. For four years after this he was city superintendent of the Fairfield, Iowa, schools, and in 1887 he came to Hastings, where he has since filled his present position to the satisfaction of all. Under his management the schools have been thoroughly and carefully graded and now hold a high rank among the graded schools of the State. He is an able educator and a man universally respected. On August 8, 1888, he was united in marriage with a Miss Tillie E. Creeth, a native of Knoxville, Ill. Socially Mr. Monlux is a member of the I. O. O. F., and in his political views he affiliates with the Republican party. In religion he is a Congregationalist.

Eugene B. Moore, furniture dealer, Kenesaw, Neb. Mr. Moore, one of the earliest settlers of Kenesaw, is a native of Syracuse, N. Y., where his

birth occurred on May 26, 1845, being the son of Ornan Moore, who was a native of the Green Mountain State, and who, at an early day, moved with his parents to New York. There the latter grew to manhood, and was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Folts, a native of New York and a descendant of one of the pioneer families of that State. In 1859 they came to Illinois, settling in Fulton County, where they resided until 1876, when they removed to Nebraska and settled near Kenesaw. There the father purchased a farm and there resided until 1883, when he received his final summons at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Moore is still living, is seventy-one years of age, and makes her home with her son, Albert C., on the original homestead. Eugene B. Moore moved to Table Grove, Ill., with his parents, in December, 1859, and received a limited education in the common schools. When about twenty years of age he went to Belvidere, Ill., where he served an apprenticeship at the wagon and carriage making trade, and then, in 1867, he returned to his home at Table Grove, Ill., where he established himself at his trade, conducting a general carriage and wagon making business until 1871. Then on account of failing health he was compelled to seek out door employment, and engaged at the carpenter and builder's trade. In 1874 he moved to Adams County, Neb., located on his present farm, adjoining the city limits, and there he now resides. He had visited the place the preceding year, and first purchased eighty acres, which he has since increased to 360 acres, and now has one of the best farms in the county. In May, 1889, he established his present furniture business in the town of Kenesaw, and is now the only furniture dealer in the place. Mr. Moore has taken an active interest in the general advancement of the town and county, and is recognized as one of Kenesaw's leading citizens. He has served as a member of the board of public education, has also served as justice of the peace, and is a member of Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M. At the time of his settlement there was but one house in Kenesaw, and Mr. Moore and family lived in that the first summer of their residence here. In 1868, on December 12, Mr. Moore

married Miss Martha J. Kelly, a native of Vermont, Ill., her parents coming to Illinois from Kentucky, their native State. To Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been born three children: Frank D. and Fred E. (born at Table Grove, Ill., January 17, 1870, and December 6, 1872, respectively), Pearl M. (born at Juniata, Neb., May 4, 1879). The family are members of the Christian Church.

Hugh A. Moreland, a prominent citizen of Juniata, is deputy sheriff of Adams County, constable of Juniata Township, general collector and liveryman, and was born in Albany, N. Y., in 1847, being the second of nine children born to Hugh and Prudence Moreland, whose maiden name was Jennings. Both parents were born in York State, and in 1848 removed from Albany to De Kalb County, Ill., of which they were among the very earliest settlers. Mr. Moreland entered 160 acres of land, and like the majority of pioneer settlers had rather a hard time to make a living for a number of years, as the nearest market was Chicago, eighty miles distant, whither he hauled his products with ox teams. After living on this farm eight years he went to Minnesota and entered a piece of land near the present site of Chatsworth, and on his property erected the first house in the township. One year later he returned to Illinois, but this time took up his abode in La Salle County, and here became the owner of a large farm, on which he is still residing. After working on his father's farm and obtaining a good practical education in the common schools, Hugh A. Moreland enlisted in the Union army at the age of eighteen years (in 1863), becoming a member of Company K, of an Illinois regiment, but was soon honorably discharged, upon which he went to Iowa, and secured the position of brakeman on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and three years later began working on the Sioux City & St. Paul Railroad, being conductor on this line for three years, his train carrying all the ties with which to build the Winona & St. Peter Railroad. Upon his return to Illinois he engaged in farming in that State for about two years, after which he was connected with a railroad for some time, and in 1875 came to Adams County, Neb., and for a period was engaged in farming and operating a threshing

machine and corn sheller near Juniata. He next opened a livery stable, now one of the oldest in the town, but two years later he began auctioneering and collecting, and since being elected to the position of constable these two occupations have received his attention. He was one of the leaders in securing the incorporation of Juniata, and served as its marshal until 1886, when he resigned. He has been active in political matters, and for about five years has held the position of deputy sheriff. He became a member of a company of militia in 1885, and after serving one year as a private he was chosen captain of Company F, Nebraska National Guards, but resigned this position one year later. He has attained high rank in the I. O. O. F., is a member of Juniata Lodge No. 79, and has been a delegate to the State convention. When Mr. Moreland was a boy he purchased a colt, which he broke and trained, and which afterward developed into a very fast animal, either as a trotter or runner. Many races were won with this horse, which afterward acquired an enviable reputation on the race track, and became especially famous at Long Island, and sold for \$10,000. Mr. Moreland also owned "Fannie Kemble," who won for him the three mile race at Belvidere, and another horse with which he won the first race ever run on the track at Hastings, and the Fourth of July race at York. In 1889 he erected a fine livery stable in Juniata, which he also uses as a sale and feed stable, and is on hand every Saturday at his place of business ready to purchase desirable animals. He was married, in 1880, to Miss Josie Hildebrand, a native of Ohio, whose parents were early pioneers of Iowa and Adams County, Neb., and are now living in Dawson County of this State. Mr. and Mrs. Moreland have had born to them four children: Imo, Chub (who died at the age of sixteen months), Frank and one other. In 1882 Mr. Moreland erected his present residence in the town, and is also the owner of other valuable property.

Benjamin Morgan, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. Originally from the Buckeye State, where his birth occurred (in Perry County) in January, 1840, Mr. Morgan is one of the pioneer settlers of Adams County, Neb. His father, Samuel Morgan, was also a native of Ohio, and fol-

lowed the occupation of a farmer in that State. He married Miss Mary Elizabeth Rose, who died in 1856, and the result of this union was seven children, Benjamin being second in order of birth. The father is still living and resides in Perry County, Ohio. Grandfather Rose was a soldier in the War of 1812. The above mentioned family are Jacob (married and resides in Lincoln County, Neb.), Benjamin (our subject), Elizabeth (deceased), Hannah (now Mrs. Tinker of Ohio), Peter (married and resides in Fayette County, Ohio), Rebecca J. (now of London, Ohio). Upon growing up it was but natural, perhaps, that Benjamin Morgan should adopt farming as his future occupation, and from the very first he became acquainted with hard work. He secured a fair education in the district schools of Ohio, and at the breaking out of the war enlisted in Company D, Thirty-first Ohio Infantry, for three years, being mustered into service at Camp Chase. He was in the battles of Murfreesboro, Logan, Cross Roads or Mill Springs, Perryville, Chickamauga, Pittsburgh Landing, Corinth, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain and others. He was under severe fire at Chattanooga, and was with Sherman to Atlanta. He was honorably discharged at Atlanta in September, 1864, and returned to Ohio. He was married in Perry County, Ohio, in 1865, to Miss Mary Jane Pace, a native of that county and the daughter of Miner Pace, one of the early settlers of Ohio. Mr. Morgan followed farming in Ohio until he emigrated to Nebraska in 1873, and there settled in Roseland Township. In 1882 he sold out and purchased 160 acres in Highland Township, which he has since improved very much, erecting a good house and barn and, in fact, has all the necessary conveniences. He votes with the Republican party, but is not active in politics. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hastings. To their marriage were born eight children: Flora Jane (now Mrs. Embry of Lincoln County, Neb.), Alice Elmira, Almada Viola, Sylvester E., Charles Chester, Arletta Leona, George and Barley Edgar. Aside from his successful farming operations Mr. Morgan is also deeply interested in raising stock, and is one of the prominent agriculturists of the county.

William Moritz, proprietor of Hastings Iron Works, Hastings, Neb. Of all the occupations engaging the industrious application of human thought, energy and endeavor, there are none of more importance than that of the scientifically skilled machinist. Nor are there any affording so wide a scope for the products of genius, the beneficial exercise of God's best gifts to man—the intellect. The machinist is one who, educated in the laws and principles of mechanism, has the genius and skill to apply them so as to produce practical results, in the shape of machinery. Hastings has a number of these flourishing establishments, but none of more importance than that conducted by Mr. Moritz, who bought the Hastings Iron Works in 1889, and is now doing an extensive business. He employs about twenty hands and manufactures well boring and drilling tools, columns and full store fronts, hoisting elevators, bridge castings, cast and wrought iron furnaces and general foundry work. Mr. Moritz is a native of Saxony, Germany, where his birth occurred August 23, 1859, and is the son of Charles and Mary (Stahlhad) Moritz, both natives also of Saxony, Germany, but now residents of Hall County, Neb. William Moritz came to the United States in 1879, located in Hastings in 1885, and in the fall of that year established Hastings Iron & Brass Works, which he conducted successfully until October, 1889, when he established his present business. He was married April 9, 1868, to Miss Mary Toebele, a native of Baden, and to this union has been born one son, William. In his political views Mr. Moritz affiliates with the Democratic party, and is one of Hastings' enterprising business men and citizens. He is a member of the K. of P., and is Chancellor Commander of Teutonia Lodge No. 55.

D. M. Morris, farmer and stock raiser, Hansen, Neb. This enterprising and successful agriculturist owes his nativity to Greene County, Pa., where his birth occurred on March 10, 1840, and is the eldest of three children born to the union of Robert and Emilene (Mills) Morris, natives of Pennsylvania. The father is still living in his native State, and is a successful carpenter. The mother died in 1847. D. M. Morris' time in early youth was divided between assisting on the farm and in attending the

common schools of Pennsylvania. At the age of fifteen years he came to Putnam County, Ill., thence to La Salle County, where he cultivated the soil, and from there to Livingston County, of the same State, in 1859, where he continued his former pursuit. In August, 1861, he enlisted at Camp Butler, Ill., in Company F, Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, for three years, and was mustered into service at Camp Butler. He was assigned to the Western department, and was in the battle of Fredericktown, Cotton Hill, Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, siege of Vicksburg, Fort Esperanza and many others. In January, 1864, he veteranized in the same company and regiment. He was in the battles of Mobile, Fort Blakely, and from there marched to Montgomery, Ala., where he learned of the assassination of President Lincoln. He was honorably discharged at Yazoo City, Miss., in October, 1865. He then returned to Livingston County, Ill., and in the spring of 1866 went to Greene County, Pa., where he attended college for eighteen months. After this he returned to Illinois, taught school in La Salle County for some time, and then followed the same profession in Ringgold, Iowa, and Nemaha County, Neb., spending two and a half years in the school room. In 1869 he came to Nemaha County, Neb., settled in Bedford Township, and in 1870 purchased some land which he began cultivating. He was married in Livingston County, Ill., in 1871, to Miss Ella Perry, a native of that county, and the daughter of Sylvester and Jane Perry, natives of the Buckeye State. D. M. Morris sold out in 1882, and emigrated to Adams County, Neb., where he purchased 320 acres of land, and is engaged in raising stock. He takes an active interest in politics, and votes with the Republican party. While a resident of Nemaha County, Neb., he held several offices of public trust, and discharged the duties incumbent upon them to the satisfaction of all. Socially he is a member of A. J. Smith Post No. 65, G. A. R., Doniphan, Neb., Congress Lodge No. 173, I. O. O. F., Hansen, Neb., Enterprise Encampment No. 29, I. O. O. F., Hastings, Neb., and a member of Heli Conclave No. 1, Heptasophs or Seven Wise Men, Supreme Ephor for the State of Nebraska. He was a representative to the Supreme

Conclave of the United States, which convened in Brooklyn, N. Y., in April, 1890. To Mr. Morris' marriage were born six children: Edward B., James M., Jennie B., Emma Myrtle, Rhettie and Willie.

William Munroe, farmer and stock raiser, Hansen, Neb. This much respected and enterprising citizen is another of the pioneers of West Blue Township, Adams County, Neb., locating in the same October 24, 1872, on Section 8, where he homesteaded 160 acres. He was born in the Province of New Brunswick in 1839, and was early initiated into the duties of farm life. In 1849 he moved with his parents to Rock County, Wis., where he received the principal part of his education, and was married in July, 1861, to Miss Catharine Case, a native of Hebron, N. Y., and the daughter of Merritt and Amse (Baldrige) Case, natives of Ohio and New York, respectively. Her parents were married in New York, and in 1842 moved to Rock County, Wis., where the father resided for many years engaged in farming. In October, 1884, he came on a visit to his daughter, and died in November of that year. He was constable for many years. The mother died in Rock County, Wis., in 1844. Mr. Munroe followed farming for himself in Wisconsin until December 31, 1863, when he enlisted in Company A, Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, and was mustered into service at Madison Wis., assigned to the Department of the Cumberland. He was in reserved division of the Twentieth Corps at Decatur, Ala., and was on garrison duty guarding the Alabama River. He was then taken sick, was in the hospital at Jonesboro, Tenn., for some time, and was discharged from the hospital at Nashville, Tenn., in 1865, returning to Rock County, Wis., May 14, of that year. He engaged in agricultural pursuits and in 1872 came to Adams County, Neb., where he entered 160 acres of land, which he immediately commenced to improve, erecting a frame house and substantial outbuildings. He lived in a covered wagon for six weeks, and in 1879 he purchased eighty acres of railroad land. Three years later he moved to this farm, erected a good house and barn, and now has 240 acres of excellent land in a good state of cultivation within six miles of the city limits. He raises considerable stock and is one of the progres-

sive men of the county. He takes an active part in politics, and his vote is cast with the Republican party. He has been a member of the school board, organized the school district and was school treasurer for four years. He is deeply interested in educational matters as may be seen. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is also a member of Strickland Post No. 13, G. A. R., at Hastings. Mrs. Munroe is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Hansen. To their union five children were born: Carrie A. (now Mrs. Funk, of Doniphan, Hall County, Neb., and a teacher in the school at that place, her husband being principal of Doniphan school), Cora (now Mrs. Montague, of Hall County, Neb.), Irving Eugene, George Albert, Nancy Amelia. Mr. Munroe has seen many changes in the country since first settling here, and was living here at the time of the blizzard of 1873, which lasted for three days. He assisted in the organization of West Blue Precinct and Township, and assisted in locating the county seat at Hastings. He was the eldest of nine children born to his parents, John and Nancy (Moore) Munroe, natives of New Brunswick. The father was a successful agriculturist, was married in New Brunswick, and soon afterward moved to Calais, Me., where he remained until 1849. He then moved to Johnstown, Rock County, Wis., purchased forty acres of land, and after remaining there for a number of years moved to Masonville, Wis., where his death occurred January 6, 1874. He had kept a tavern at the last mentioned place. The mother is still living, and now resides in Doniphan, Hall County, Neb., whither she moved in 1881. Their family consisted of the following children: William, James (was drowned in the Wisconsin River in April, 1873), Eleanor (now Mrs. Hudson, of Hall County, Neb.), John B. (married and resides on Rock Prairie, Rock County, Wis.), George (moved to Adams County, Neb., in May, 1880, and died in April, 1881, of consumption), Jane (now Mrs. Dykeman, of Hall County, Neb.), Charles (married and resides in Hall County, Neb.), Mary (now Mrs. Rood, of Highland Township, Adams County), and Henry (who died in Rock County, Wis., about 1867.)

Stephen A. Nash is one of the pioneers of Adams County, Neb., and is actively engaged in farming

and stock raising. He was born in Columbia County, N. Y., May 22, 1844, and like the majority of the natives of the "Empire State" he is industrious, enterprising and intelligent. He is the eldest of three surviving members of a family of eight children born to Nelson B. and Melvina (Shutts) Nash, who were also born in York State, the former July 24, 1812, and the latter November 3, 1813. In early life the father learned the trade of a clock maker in the Seth Thomas Clock Factory, but subsequently gave his attention to farming, stock raising and the mercantile business. He died in Adams County, Neb., in 1882, still survived by his widow, who is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and makes her home with her son. Stephen A. Nash was educated in the common schools, and worked on the old homestead until August 29, 1864, when he entered Company K, Forty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged June 30, 1865. In the fall of 1866 he entered the employ of the United States government as surveyor of the lands belonging to the Osage Indians, and the following year was spent in trading with the Indians, after which he went to Wisconsin and remained until 1870. Since that time he has been a resident of Nebraska, but the first two years were spent in hunting buffaloes, being an associate of "Buckskin Charley," a noted hunter of the West. In 1872 he came to Adams County and took up a homestead claim, and in 1882-83 purchased grain in Hastings, but since 1887 has given his attention to general farming and stock raising. He is a Republican. Mr. Nash is one of the leading agriculturists of Adams County, and is the owner of 480 acres of valuable land.

F. V. Nash. As might naturally be expected, mention is made in the present work of many citizens of Adams County, Neb., who were born in the "Hoosier State," and Mr. Nash is one of these, and his experience has been with the agricultural interests of the county. Born on December 26, 1852, he is a son of Nelson and Melvina Nash, *see* Shutts, a short sketch of whom appears in the sketch of Stephen A. Nash. F. V. Nash is next to the youngest of their eight children, and has ever de-

voted his time and attention to farming. It is the calling to which he was reared, and in which his father achieved success; and it is but to be supposed that he would meet with substantial results in the same capacity. His farm comprises a well improved tract of 200 acres, it being situated about three miles southwest from the county court house. When less than two years of age he was taken by his parents to the State of Wisconsin, and there made his home, receiving his education in the common schools, until his removal to Adams County, Neb., in November, 1872, where, the following year, he began life on his own responsibility. Although a man young in years, he may be said to be an old settler of the county, and also one of its leading agriculturists. He is a Republican in politics, and in 1887 was elected clerk of Denver Township; was re-elected in 1888, and also in 1889. Mr. Nash was married January 10, 1878, to Mary M. Babcock. They have one child named Rea, who was born April 3, 1889. Mrs. Nash was born in Monroe County, Mich., in 1858, and came with her parents to Nebraska in 1872. She is a daughter of Peter H. and Isabell Babcock, the latter of whom died in Adams County, Neb., in 1877.

Silas W. Niles is one of the old settlers of Denver Township, Adams County, Neb., and is one of the sturdy, independent agriculturists of the same. His birth occurred in Madison County of the Empire State, September 24, 1840, and he is the youngest of eight living children born to the marriage of John Niles and Sarah Mosley, who were born in 1800 and 1803, and died in Sterling, Ill., in 1882 and 1885, respectively. The paternal grandfather, who also bore the name of John, died in Madison County, N. Y., at a ripe old age. Silas W. was reared in the Nutmeg State, and received an excellent high school education. Being quick to learn and of a rather studious disposition, he made rapid progress in his books, and upon starting out for himself was well fitted to make his own way in the world. He removed to the State of Iowa in 1855, and was engaged in tilling the soil in that State until 1874, when he came to Adams County, Neb., and homesteaded his present farm of 200 acres, in Section 20, of Denver Township. He has greatly improved his

property by buildings, fences, etc., since locating, and besides doing general farm work he gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, which has so far proved quite remunerative. He was married in 1864 to Miss Lois James, who was born in Virginia in 1845, and by her is the father of four sons: John W. (a successful educator of Adams County), Albert M., Arthur and James I. Mrs. Niles is a daughter of James and Susanna (Ault) James, natives of Maryland, the former's birth occurring in 1804. The mother died in 1863 when about fifty-two years of age. Mr. Niles is one of the well-known and highly respected men of the county, and for several years has filled the office of justice of the peace of Denver Township. Although formerly a Republican in his political views, he is now a Prohibitionist. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Christian Nissen, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. A glance at the lives of the many representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal sketches of some honored, influential citizens, but none more deserving of mention than Christian Nissen. He owes his nativity to Denmark, where his birth occurred in 1838, and is the son of Nicholas and Martha Nissen. The father was a successful tiller of the soil, and both he and wife died when their son Christian was quite small. The latter remained in Denmark until twenty-one years of age and then emigrated to Wisconsin, settled in Waukesha County, and there engaged in farming, and also followed the carpenter trade. He had been in that State about two years when the war broke out, and he enlisted, in 1861, in Company P, Fifteenth Wisconsin Infantry, participating in the battle of Island No. 10, and was in a great many skirmishes. He was then taken sick and was discharged in 1862 on account of disability. Returning to Wisconsin, he engaged in agricultural pursuits, also his former trade as a carpenter, and there remained for some time. In 1862 he married Miss Mary Holcar, daughter of A. Holcar, and to them were born twelve children, eight now living: August, Joe, Louisa, Mary, Christian, Jennie, Minnie and John. Those deceased were named: Mattie, John, Nicholas and an infant. Mr. Nissen and family immigrate!

to Nebraska, settled on 160 acres, where he now lives, and has it all well improved. He likes the State and expects to make it his home. He is moderator of the school district in which he lives, and has been a member of the school board several times. He and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and both are deeply interested in religious and educational matters. He is Republican in politics and was one of the G. A. R. Post at Hastings. He was one of the very first settlers of the township.

Hon. Henry E. Norton, Kenesaw, Neb. Eminent success achieved through honorable endeavor affords one of the greatest sources of pleasure to him, who, in a retrospective view of life, traces his progress by such tokens as deserve admiration and esteem. Such an enjoyment is afforded in its fullest sense to Mr. Henry E. Norton, of whose life but a brief summary is presented in this biographical sketch. The Norton family is known as one of the earliest families of Connecticut. When the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock with her precious load of weary pilgrims, who, in order that they might enjoy the freedom of worship, and follow this after the dictates of their own conscience, left their native lands and pushed westward across the broad Atlantic, there was numbered among this little band, one, John Norton, in whose veins flowed the blood of the sturdy Scotch, and who, settling at Guilford, Conn., became the progenitor of the Norton family in America. Henry E. Norton was born at Madison, Conn., on August 3, 1836, and is the son of Jonathan E. and Eliza (Stone) Norton, both worthy people of the same town and State, where the father died in 1880, at the age of eighty years, but where the mother now resides at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Of a family of three sons and three daughters born to this worthy couple, Henry E. is the third child in order of birth. Growing to manhood in his New England home, he inherited those Puritanical principles of industry and sterling integrity which have ever characterized his after life. Young Norton secured his education in the high schools of his native place, and early possessing a longing for active business, we find him when but seventeen years of age, acting in the capacity of traveling salesman, and in 1861 he

became a member of the general merchandising firm of Munger, Norton & Co. Two years later he engaged in the oil industry at Titusville, Pa., as a member of the firm of Hale & Norton. The company did a general business, pumping, refining and shipping petroleum, and were so successful, and their business increased so rapidly, that the following year they found it necessary to establish an office at the corner of Maiden Lane and Water Streets, New York, Mr. Norton acting as general manager of the company. In 1865 he went to Canada, and organized an oiling and prospecting company, at Oil Springs, Ontario. Soon afterward he returned to his native State, where he engaged at merchandising, also in the hard wood timber business for a number of years. In 1879 he organized the Guilford Enterprise Company, for the manufacture of vegetable ivory buttons, and was elected general manager, secretary and treasurer of the company. Mr. Norton not only took an active interest in the business development of his country, but also took a deep interest in politics, and in 1864 represented Guilford in the General Assembly of Connecticut. He had become a stockholder in the Lyon's Rock and Lime Quarry Company, of Lyons, Col., and in the spring of 1884 he went to the west to view his property, and was at once elected president of the company, which position he now holds. In 1884 he came to Kenesaw, Neb., and established the Kenesaw Exchange Bank, which opened for business November 11, of that year, with Mr. Norton as president, and under his guidance has proved a success. The firm, first known as Norton & Fry, has since been changed to Norton & Hatch, who, in June, 1888, established the Madrid Exchange Bank. In 1859, at Madison, Conn., he was united in marriage to Miss Lucy A. Munger, a native of Madison, and also of old Puritan stock. The fruits of this union were two sons and one daughter: Elouise C. (now Mrs. P. E. Hatch, of Kenesaw, Neb.), Charles G. (who died at Guilford, Conn., at the age of fourteen years), and Elbert E. (assistant cashier of Kenesaw Exchange Bank, and a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1888). In 1880 Mrs. Norton passed to her last long sleep, and now lies at rest in the cemetery at Guilford, Conn., she being

at the time of her death a respected member of the Third Congregational Church of that place. In April, 1885, at Atlantic, Iowa, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Norton with Miss Ella S. Talmadge, who died the following September, at Kenesaw, Neb. His marriage with Laura Gertrude Francis occurred on June 2, 1887. This lady is a native of Thibodeaux, La Fourche Parish, La. The family worship at the First Presbyterian Church of Kenesaw, of which they are members, and in which organization Mr. Norton is an elder. He has for many years been prominent in Masonic circles, both in the East and West, first becoming a member of the fraternity in 1861, when he entered into St. Albans' Lodge No. 38, at Guilford, Conn. He was made a Royal Arch Mason at Fair Haven, in 1883, and the following year became a member of the New Haven Commandery No. 2, K. T. He was prominent in organizing Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, of which he is a charter member and was first Master. He is also a member of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, at Hastings, Neb. Since his residence in Kenesaw, Mr. Norton has been prominently identified with all movements tending toward its advancement. A noticeable event in his career is the thorough principles upon which all his business ventures were conducted, and the eminent success with which they were attended. Mr. Norton is in every respect a self-made man, and his achievements are due to his own personal efforts. His successful career in life furnishes for the younger generation a valuable example, showing, as it does, what may be accomplished by one having pluck and energy.

Hon. Fred P. Olmstead is one of the leading lawyers of Adams County, Neb., and is an example of what can be accomplished when the spirit of determination is exercised in connection with the every-day affairs of life. He was born in White-side County, Ill., October 29, 1850, and is a son of Daniel C. Olmstead, who was born April 21, 1818, and removed from his native State to Illinois in 1833, where he spent a number of years as government contractor. In 1873 Adams County, Neb., became his home, and he is now one of the leading and enterprising residents of Little Blue Township. His wife, who was formerly Miss Octavia Kendall, was

born in the State of Maine, and in 1840 removed to Illinois. Hon. Fred P. Olmstead is the younger of two children, and from his earliest recollections was familiar with the duties of farm life. After receiving an excellent knowledge of the common branches in the district schools of his native county, he entered Cornell College, Iowa, and was graduated from this institution in 1871. From that time until 1880 he was engaged in teaching school, a portion of the time being principal of the schools of Cleveland, Ill., but in 1878 came to Nebraska, and as an educator became one of the best in the State, his reputation being made at Harvard and Grand Island. In 1882 he began farming and stock raising in Little Blue Township, his operations in these branches of business resulting satisfactorily, but having previously acquired an excellent knowledge of legal lore, he passed an examination and in 1887 was admitted to the Adams County bar, since which time he has given this calling his undivided attention. In 1888 he became associated with O. B. Hewett, in the law practice, and although he has acquired an excellent civil law practice he makes a specialty of criminal cases, in the handling of which he is very successful. Having always been a Republican his first Presidential vote was cast for U. S. Grant in 1872, and on this ticket, in 1884, he was elected a member of the State Legislature by a majority of 887, and was afterward made chairman of a special committee appointed to investigate frauds said to have been perpetrated on school lands and funds. He introduced a bill for the location of the Insane Asylum at Hastings, and upon the expiration of his term was returned to the General Assembly and became a prominent candidate for speaker of the House. He was chairman of committee on railroads, a member of the judiciary committee, finance, ways and means, and also of common public lands and buildings. He is a total abstainer, and is a man who has through honest and consistent endeavor attained his present enviable position among the prominent men of Adams County. He is a man of commanding presence; is six feet two inches in height, and weighs 230 pounds.

Henry W. Olmstead is a tiller of the soil and stock raiser of Little Blue Township, Adams County,

Neb., and is the youngest of four children reared by Henry and Sarah (Merritt) Olmstead, born in Ridgefield, Conn., and New York, in 1795 and 1787, respectively. The father was a son of Henry Olmstead, and was also a farmer by occupation, his death occurring in 1870, and his wife's in 1884. She was a daughter of Daniel Merritt, of Port Chester, N. Y., and the children born to herself and Mr. Olmstead are as follows: Oliver, Daniel C. Mariat J. and Henry W. The latter began making his own way in the world in 1850, removing to Whiteside County, Ill., where he engaged in agriculture, and four years later he united his fortunes with those of Miss Sarah W. Oatman, a daughter of Daniel and Betsey Oatman of Virginia. Mr. Olmstead removed to Nebraska with his wife and family in 1874, taking up a homestead claim of 160 acres; and owing to the energy and enterprise which have ever characterized his efforts, he has become the owner of 336 acres of well improved and fertile land. Much of his attention is given to the raising of horses and broom corn. He has always assisted in matters pertaining to the improvement of the county; is a Republican in politics, and in addition to being treasurer of his district he is a member of his school board. He and wife have one son, Edward S. (who lives in Little Blue Township, near his father, and is conducting a poultry farm). He is married to Ella C. Ioset, of Zero Township, Adams County.

D. C. Palmer, liveryman of Hastings, Neb. Considering the fact that since Mr. Palmer's arrival upon the stage of human action he has been compelled to fight the battle of life for himself, his career has been more than ordinarily successful, and for the past three years his time and attention have been given to his present calling, for the proper carrying on of which he seems to have a natural aptitude. Born in New York on June 28, 1835, he was the only child of Guy Palmer and his first wife, the latter of whom died when her son was five years old. The senior Palmer married twice afterward, and is now living with his third wife in the "Empire State." D. C. was taught the intricacies of farm work on his father's homestead, and after starting out in life for himself this occupation continued to

be his calling for many years, in connection with which he conducted a butchering business. Both enterprises proved fairly remunerative, but becoming dissatisfied with his location he, in 1887, came to Hastings, Neb., and opened a livery stable, which he has since conducted in a highly successful manner. His early education was acquired in the district schools of his native county and in the Cazenovia Seminary, which institution he attended one and a half terms, but his knowledge of matters and facts has not alone been confined to this, for by contact with the world and reading the current literature of the day, he would be accounted an intelligent and wide-awake man in whatever community he might chose to locate. Politically he is a Republican, and he and wife, whose maiden name was Lucinda E. Bard, and whom he married in the State of New York, are members of the Congregational Church. To them have been born a family of four children: Frank, Charles, Herbert and Florence. Mr. Palmer has had three half brothers, one of whom, D. W. Palmer, still survives, and is also a resident of Hastings.

William H. Palmer has been connected with the farming interests of Adams County, Neb., since March, 1878, and is the owner of 400 acres of valuable land, the greater portion of which is under cultivation, his original purchase on coming here amounting to 420 acres. He was born in St. Joseph County, Ind., in 1840, a son of James and Almira (Taylor) Palmer, and grandson of James and Cynthia (Palmer) Palmer and Adjanaza Taylor. James Palmer was born in Pennsylvania in 1794, and was married about 1820, becoming the father of the following children: James S., Adelbert B., Louisa, Alvina, Dorothea, Sophia, George W. and William H. The father of these children was a successful farmer, a soldier in the War of 1812, and in his political views was formerly a Whig in politics, but at the time of his death in 1861 he was a Republican. His wife died in Indiana in 1869. The early life of William H. Palmer was spent in Indiana, and upon his marriage in 1864 he started out in life for himself, and after farming in Lake County, Ind., until March, 1878, he settled on his present property in Adams County, Neb. He is a member of

the Farmers' Alliance, and in addition to tilling his farm he has been engaged in running a threshing machine for the past eleven years, and is now the owner of a fine steam thresher. His property is finely improved and he has a good young orchard started. He is a Republican in politics, and is a school director in his district. His wife was Miss Elsie L., a daughter of Daniel and Alma (Cross) Strong, of York State. She was born in Indiana in 1845, and has borne Mr. Palmer the following children: Martin D. (who was born in 1867, is married to Emma Taylor, and resides in Denver Township, Adams County), Alfaretta (born in 1868, is now Mrs. Frederick, of Denver Township), Samuel C. (was born in 1870), Walter E. (in 1871), Hattie (in 1873) and Alma (in 1883). Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

O. R. Palmer, a prosperous lumberman of Juniata, Neb., was born in Indiana County, Pa., in 1851, being the youngest of seven children born to Henry and Sarah Palmer, who were extensive farmers, to which occupation their son, O. R., was reared. He attended the district schools near his home until he attained his eighteenth year, then began farming for himself on a fine piece of land consisting of sixty acres, which he had purchased. He soon after married Miss Salina Hice, whose native State was Pennsylvania, and on this farm he resided and made many improvements for seven years, then sold out and began farming near Morgantown, West Va., but only remained there a short time, and resided successively in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Kansas, remaining in the latter State a period of eight years. In 1879 he located with four friends in Decatur County, Kan., and with them built a house and broke up some land; but on September 30, Indians made a raid on them and killed Mr. Palmer's four companions, and he had a very narrow escape from death, being wounded twice. He managed to evade them, however, and succeeded in reaching Oberlin, where he told his story, upon which a party of men was formed to hunt the Indians down, and the result was two were killed. After this Mr. Palmer went to Glen Elder, Mitchell County, and spent three years on a farm and one year in town, being engaged in the livery

business, after which he went to Greeley, and engaged in digging irrigating ditches. Still later he went to Beaver Canyon, where he was engaged in lumbering for the Utah Northern Railroad Company for one year, and from that time until October, 1882, was engaged in freighting, hauling wood and hay in Glendale, Mont. At the last named date he located in Juniata, Neb., and for five years gave his attention to the dray business and house moving, after which one year was spent in the milling business. On May 1, 1888, he opened his present lumber yard in Juniata, and now deals in all kinds of lumber, building materials and stone. Under his careful management and perseverance the business has prospered, and he is now justly accounted one of the leading business men of the place, and has recently taken charge of the mill. In 1886 he erected a commodious and substantial brick residence, the only one in the place, and here expects to make his home for years to come. He takes an interest in political matters, and has served several years as justice of Juniata, and has also been a member of the town council. He has passed all the chairs in the I. O. O. F., and is a member of Juniata Lodge No. 79. He and wife are the parents of the following children: Sarah M., Carrie A., Salina J., Myrtle A., Minnie Grace, Benjamin Roy (who died December 25, 1888, at the age of nine years), Harry R. (born November 14, 1886) and George Russell (born October 5, 1889).

G. W. Parks, farmer and stockman, Holstein, Neb. A life long experience in the channels of agricultural pursuits has contributed not a little toward the success which has come to the lot of Mr. Parks since he began farming for himself. He owes his nativity to Dearborn County, Ind., where his birth occurred on April 18, 1838, and is the son of Zephaniah Parks, who was born in the Empire State in 1792. The latter went to Indiana when a young man, settled in Dearborn County, and was there married to Miss Leah Green, daughter of Eli Green, and granddaughter of Gen. Nathaniel Green. Later he moved to Illinois, afterward to Iowa, where he improved a farm in Johnson County. He died in Poweshiek County in 1874; his wife in 1867. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, being with

Gen. Harrison at the battle of the Thames. George W. Parks grew to manhood principally in Johnson County, Iowa, received a good common school education, and afterward taught school for about two years in that State. Later he engaged in agricultural pursuits in the last named county, continued at this for a number of years, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company B, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, and served until discharged for disability on January 5, 1865. He enlisted as corporal, and was in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, Big Black River, siege of Vicksburg, Sabine Cross Roads and Pleasant Hill, La.; was wounded in the foot and arm at Winchester, Va. He was permanently disabled, and after being discharged returned home. He taught school, and in connection carried on farming until he came to Nebraska in 1875. He arrived here in June of that year and located on his present property, which consists of 635 acres, about half of which is under a high state of cultivation, with osage hedge, orchards and good frame buildings. Mr. Parks is a Democrat in politics; has held the office of justice of the peace, and has been a member of the school board. He was married first on September 1, 1859, in Gentry County, Mo., to Miss Martha Caudle, who died in Nebraska in 1887, leaving nine children: Nettie, Russell, B. W., Frank G., Maggie, Ella, William S., Melville B. and Arthur E. Mr. Parks' second marriage occurred in Adams County, Neb., in October, 1888, to Miss Alice Linn, a native of Missouri, and the fruit of this union has been one child, a son, Alpine. Mr. Parks is an active member of the G. A. R.

Luther B. Partridge, county clerk of Adams County, although a young man, has made his way to the front ranks among the enterprising citizens of this locality, and his name is identified with the well-fare and material and social happiness of Adams County. He was born in St. Joseph County, Ind., March 3, 1858, and is a son of Harper and Eunice (Boyden) Partridge, who were born in Vermont and Massachusetts, in February, 1806, and March 26, 1825, respectively. At an early day the Partridge family settled in Ohio, later in Indiana, thence in 1865 to Niles, Mich., and in 1878 came to Nebraska, settling in Adams county, where the father's death

occurred October 5, 1879, and where the mother is still living. Luther B. Partridge is one of their five children and received his early education in the schools of Niles, Mich. On coming to Nebraska he engaged in farming, which occupation received his undivided attention until 1882, when he came to Hastings, and for five years acted as clerk in a mercantile house. Politically he has always been an ardent Republican, and in 1887 he was elected to the clerkship of Adams County, a position to which he was elected a second time in 1889 by a plurality of 668. He is a faithful, competent official, and possesses that strength of character and genuine merit which place him among the leading men of the county. He is Past Master in the Masonic Lodge (Kenesaw No. 14), and also belongs to Hastings Lodge No. 28, of the K. of P. He was married March 25, 1873, to Miss Lucy K. Robertson, a native of Indiana, and by her has one child: Elsworth N.

Charles H. Paul. For the past eighteen years, since locating in Adams County, Neb., Mr. Paul has enjoyed the reputation of being not only progressive in his views, but thoroughly posted on all matters of public interest. He has become well known for honorable, upright dealing, and has kept the name he bears pure in the sight of all. He was born in York County, Me., April 11, 1847, and is a descendant of William Paul, who left England, at Gravesend, in 1717, and settled at Taunton, Mass. The paternal grandfather was John Paul, born at Kittery, Me., in 1770, and died on the old homestead in that State, at a ripe old age. His son, John Paul, Jr., uncle to the subject of this sketch, went to sea in his youth, and during the War of 1812 his vessel was at New Orleans, and was blockaded by the English. He was forced to abandon his ship, and returned to his home in Maine on foot, the journey comprising nine months. Luther W. Paul, father of Charles H., was born in 1817, in Maine, as was his wife, whose maiden name was Betsey Fall, her birth occurring in 1819. They are now residents of Great Falls, N. H., and although quite aged they are yet hale and hearty. Charles H. Paul is the eldest of four children, and at the age of eight years was taken by his parents to Man

chester, N. H., where he attended school until the breaking out of the late Civil War, at which time he enlisted in Company A, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry (being at that time only fourteen years old), and with his regiment participated in seventeen hard fought battles, some of the most important being: Morris Island, S. C.; Fort Wagner, S. C.; Chester Station, Va.; Olusee, Fla.; Drury's Bluff, Va.; Mine Run, Va.; Deep Bottom, Va.; Fort Fisher, N. C., and Wilmington, N. C. After an honorable service of three years and ten months, he was discharged at Goldsboro, N. C., as sergeant. He returned to New Hampshire, and for two and one-half years was clerk in the postoffice of Manchester, after which he entered his father's boot and shoe manufactory, remaining with him about one year and a half. The year 1869 found him in Lynn, Mass., where he was employed by a large manufacturing establishment as a shoe cutter. This city continued to be his home until 1872, when he settled in Adams County, Neb., engaging the following year in the boot and shoe business in Hastings, which occupation received the greater part of his attention for eight years. In 1881 he was appointed postmaster of Hastings, and served until his successor was appointed by President Cleveland. In 1887 he was elected treasurer of Adams County. He was honored by a re-election in 1889, with a majority of 710, in which capacity he is ably discharging his duties, and as an official has the implicit confidence of his constituents. Always an uncompromising Republican, he has aided his party to the utmost, and in return his party has honored him with his present position. His union to Miss Eliza F. Durgin took place in 1868. She was born in Compton, N. H., in 1849, and she and Mr. Paul are the parents of two daughters: Ada and Blanche.

K. Pearson, farmer and stock raiser, has been worthily and prominently identified with the farming interests of Adams County, Neb., since coming to this country in 1872. He was born in Sweden in 1837, being the eldest of three children born to K. and Charley (Olson) Pearson, who were agriculturists in their native land. The mother died about 1863, leaving three children: Anna (in Sweden), Ella (Mrs. Nelson, residing in Hastings, Neb.), and

the subject of this sketch. The latter, upon his arrival in America, settled almost immediately in Adams County, on the farm where he now lives, and on taking out his homestead papers he found that it was No. 33, showing that only thirty-two homesteads had been taken up before. On this property he set energetically to work, and it now shows to a noticeable extent what years of industry, good management and superior knowledge will do toward improving land. He has now a half section of superior land, all of which is the result of honest and conscientious work. He has been interested in all worthy movements since coming here, and in his political views is independent, voting rather for the man than the party. He has always been found ready to support the cause of Christianity and schools, and he and his wife are earnest members of the Lutheran Church. He was married in 1863, while in Sweden, to Anna Benson, and by her has three children: Charley, Barney and Henrietta.

A. R. Pearson, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. A representative citizen of Adams County, and a man recognized and respected as such wherever known, Mr. Pearson is at this time largely interested in farming and stock raising, to which he has given his attention for many years. He was born in Lenawee County, Mich., in 1848, and was the fifth in a family of nine children born to David and Jane (Pickering) Pearson, natives of Lincolnshire, England. The parents were married in their native country, and in 1836 emigrated to America, locating in New York, where they remained for two years. They then moved to Lenawee County, Mich., purchased land, improved it, and there the death of the father occurred in 1873. The mother still survives, and resides on the old homestead. A. R. Pearson was early initiated into the duties of farm life, and he was fortunate in securing a good education in the schools of Lenawee County, Mich. He was married in that county in 1875 to Miss Eola G. Saulsbury, a native of Lenawee County, Mich., and the daughter of Levi and Cordelia Saulsbury, natives of New York. Her parents moved to Michigan at an early day, and there they are now residing. After marrying Mr. Pearson farmed for one year, and then moved to Adams County, Neb., where he

purchased a farm of 160 acres. All this he has now under cultivation, and is also interested in stock raising. He is active in politics and his vote is cast with the Republican party. He has served as magistrate of his township since 1885, and served as a member of the school board for six years, taking much interest in educational matters. He and Mrs. Pearson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in their own district. Mr. Pearson's and other families organized a church, which prospered, and now has thirty-five members. Mr. Pearson has been church official for six years, and was Sunday-school superintendent for two years. He is a man who takes a deep interest in the progress of the county, and his aid and means are liberally given to all laudable enterprises for the good of the same. To his marriage were born the following children: Ethel, Earl and Effie. Ethel is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

M. V. Perkins, another pioneer settler of Highland Township, came to Adams County, Neb., in April, 1873, settled on the farm where he now resides, and there he has since made his home. He first homesteaded eighty acres in Section 22, Highland Township, and this he has improved, added to and cultivated, until he has one of the best farms in the county. He was born in Bureau County, Ill., in 1837, and was the eldest of four children born to Timothy and Cynthia (Perkins) Perkins, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. Timothy Perkins went with his parents to Illinois at an early day, and was reared to the arduous duties of the farm. He was married in Bureau County, Ill., and there engaged in agricultural pursuits. He took an active part in politics, and was a soldier in the Blackhawk War. His death occurred in 1865, and the mother's death occurred a number of years previous. Being reared to farm life, it was but natural, perhaps, that when it became time for M. V. Perkins to start out in life for himself, he chose that as his calling, although previous to this, however, he had made a journey to California (1864), overland; was five months on the road, and followed mining there until 1866, when he returned to Illinois and engaged in tilling the soil, which has been his principal occupation since. He was married in his

native county in 1860 to Mrs. Eliza Perkins, a native of Nodaway County, Mo., and the daughter of Jesse Blackburn, a native of Kentucky, and one of the pioneers of Maryville, Mo. Mr. Blackburn was a farmer by occupation, and died many years ago. M. V. Perkins cultivated the soil in Bureau County, Ill., until coming to Adams County, Neb., in 1873. He has good substantial buildings on his place, and the original eighty acres have been increased to 160 acres, all of which is in tillable condition. He raises considerable stock, and makes a specialty of blooded animals, having a fine grade of Norman horses and Short-horn cattle, and taken all in all, he is one of the enterprising and progressive men of the county. He is a Democrat, and active in politics. Mr. Perkins aided in the organization of the township, is a member of the school board, and he and wife are members of the Christian Church at Hastings, Neb. To their union were born nine children: William, Isabell, Jane, Jesse (married and resides in the township), Martin, Fred, Lindsey, Ada and Emma. Mr. Perkins has seen the full and complete development of the county, and has killed buffalo near his farm. Hastings was but a small place when he first settled here, and it seems to have grown up like magic. He has aided in all enterprises for the good of the county, particularly so in educational matters. He is practically a self-made man, all his property being the result of his own exertions.

Melancthon W. Peters, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Peters is a typical Nebraska citizen, substantial, enterprising and progressive, and such a man as wields no small influence in the community where he makes his home. He came originally from the State of New York, his birth occurring in Oneida County in 1835, and was the second in a family of four children born to the union of Amos and Polly (Miller) Peters, natives of Whitehall, N. Y., and Kingsburg, Vt., respectively. The parents were married in New York, and in 1842 the father moved to Calumet County, Wis., where he followed the trade of a stone mason. His death occurred in 1855. The mother died in New York in 1839. Melancthon W. Peters was but seven years of age when he moved with his father

to Wisconsin, making the trip by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, and the principal part of his education was received in Calumet County, of that State. He commenced farming for himself in Fond du Lac County, Wis., and this continued until in 1861, when he enlisted for three months in the ninety day service, first call, and began duty at Milwaukee, Wis., in April, 1861, in Company I, First Wisconsin Infantry. He was in the battle of Falling Waters, Va., and in July of the last named year he enlisted in Company K, First Wisconsin Infantry, for three years, or during the war, being mustered in October 8, at Milwaukee, Wis. He was assigned to the Department of the Cumberland, and was in the battles of Lallahoma and Chickamauga. He received a gun-shot wound in the left shoulder, was taken prisoner and confined first at Belle Island, then at Libby, and finally at Danville, Va., where he succeeded in making his escape by digging a tunnel. He was re-captured at Blackwater River and taken to the Libby pen. During the re-capture he received a gun-shot wound in the neck and wrist, and was retained in the miserable den for ten days, when he was returned to Belle Island. From there he was taken to Andersonville, on June 7, 1864, and confined in that terrible prison until about the first of September, when he was taken to Florence, S. C. He remained there until November 30, 1864, when he was paroled and returned to Wisconsin, with an experience in the Southern prison pens which he would not care to repeat. At the close of service he engaged in tilling the soil, and in 1865 he was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Harmer, a native of Calumet County, Wis., where they were married, and the daughter of Ira and Elizabeth (Johnson) Harmer. Her parents were natives of New York State, and emigrated to Calumet County, Wis., in 1836, being the first pioneers of the county. The father died in 1872; but his excellent wife still survives him, and resides in Hastings, having moved from her Wisconsin home to Omaha, Neb., in 1877, and thence to Hastings, in 1878. Mr. Peters moved to Fond du Lac County, Wis., in 1868, and to Adams County, Neb., ten years later, where he now resides. He is not very active in politics, but his vote is always cast

with the Republican party. He has been a member of the school board and takes much interest in educational matters. To his marriage have been born nine children: Sherman, Jessie, Amos, John Wesley, Frank, Lillie, William, Elizabeth and Harry.

Truman D. Phelps, farmer, Kenesaw, Neb. Mr. Phelps is one of the leading agriculturists of Wanda Township, and the energetic and wide-awake manner in which he has taken advantage of all methods and ideas tending to the enhanced value of his property, has had a great deal to do with obtaining the competence which he now enjoys. He was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., on April 11, 1837, and is the son of Isaac and Ruth (Vickery) Phelps, both natives of York State. Truman D. is the youngest of a family of five children, and when eighteen years of age he went with his parents to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he finished his education in the public high school of Warren. After this he was engaged in teaching and at various other occupations until 1863, and in 1865 he removed to Grundy County, Ill., where for the following ten years he was a tiller of the soil. In 1875 he established a general merchandising business at Gardner, Ill., which in 1878 was conducted under the firm name of Pratt, Martin & Phelps, who two years later were succeeded by Phelps & Lewis. This firm continued until 1885, and during the summer of 1887 Mr. Phelps traveled through the West, and becoming impressed with the great advantages offered by Adams County, he determined to locate there. Accordingly he purchased his present farm in Section 12, Wanda Township, and three and a half miles southeast of the village of Kenesaw. In September of the same year he brought his family to Kenesaw, where they continued to reside until the completion of their present fine residence, when they located on the place in December, 1887. Mr. Phelps has continued to improve his place until he now has one of the best improved farms and one of the handsomest farm residences in Wanda Township. He devotes much of his attention to the raising of fine stock, and is recognized as one of the leading agriculturists of this region. His marriage with Miss Clara Griswold was celebrated on January 26, 1862. She is a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, born September 23, 1843, and is the

daughter of Jesse and Susannah (Mansell) Griswold, both natives of Pennsylvania, who in 1846 removed to Trumbull County, Ohio. There the mother died, and the father then made his home with his children in Grundy County, Ill., and there died in 1874. The Phelps family are of English extraction, and for generations have resided in America. One of the ancestors served in the Revolutionary War, and the father of our subject was in the War of 1812. At the breaking out of the late war Truman D. enlisted in the Ohio Volunteer Militia, but was rejected by the medical examining board. Politically Mr. Phelps is a staunch Republican, and both he and wife are worthy members of the Baptist Church, being active in works of charity and benevolence. Mrs. Phelps is a member of the W. C. T. U., and is also a member of the W. R. C. They now reside on their farm near Kenesaw, where they have a pleasant home and are surrounded by the comforts of life. Their only child, William M., who was born on February 9, 1876, resides with them, and adds to the sunshine of their lives. The family is universally respected and esteemed. Mr. Phelps is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

David S. Phelps by his superior management has become a well-to-do farmer and stock raiser of Adams County, Neb. Born in Bureau County, Ill., April 21, 1859, he is a son of E. H. and Mary (Morse) Phelps, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Connecticut. When a young man, in 1831, E. H. Phelps removed to Illinois, there being only seventeen families in Bureau County at the time of his settlement, and he is now its oldest living resident. He was married in Illinois, and he and wife reared a family of three daughters and one son, two daughters being now residents of Adams County, Neb. David S. Phelps remained with his father until he was twenty years old, and besides receiving the advantages of the common schools was an attendant of the Princeton high school. Believing that he could do better in Nebraska than in his native State, he came west in 1879 and located in Adams County, on the farm of 160 acres where he now lives. All his land is well fenced and under cultivation, and he has just built him a new residence, and convenient to the house is an apple and

peach orchard, consisting of 150 trees just commencing to bear. His crop in 1889 was exceptionally large; and he is gradually accumulating means, and will eventually be one of the wealthy men of the county, for he possesses all the requisites necessary to success, among which may be mentioned energy, enterprise and economy. His stock is all of a good grade, his cattle being of the Short-horn breed, his swine, Poland China, and he has a fine Clydesdale brood mare. Being a Republican in politics, he has served as delegate to numerous county and State conventions, and he and wife are members of the United Brethren Church, in which he is class leader. His marriage to Miss Fannie Frantz was consummated in Illinois, August 8, 1882, she being a native of and reared in Logan County, of that State. Her father, Isaac Frantz, is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have two children: Glenn (a lad of five years), and Zantie (a little girl three years of age).

W. W. Philleo, a well known and highly esteemed resident of Adams County, Neb., is a son of Addison and Livonia (Cummings) Philleo, who were born in Torrington, Conn., November 27, 1804, and July 21, 1816, and died June 11, 1880, and September 20, 1845, respectively. They were married in Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and in 1836 concluded to seek their fortune on the fertile prairies of the West, and settled on a farm near Port Byron, Rock Island County, Ill., their possessions consisting of a horse and one eight-inch cast-iron plow. They paid \$40 for their horse, and after a time bought a cow at \$80, and as they had only \$135 when locating here, they soon learned what it was to suffer for the necessities of life, but in time became well-to-do citizens. To them four sons were born. Russell C. was born September 28, 1837, and was killed at the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, having been a member of Company D, Twelfth Regiment Illinois Volunteers. William Wallace (familiarily known as Scott or Scotch, a nickname given him by his mother, who was of Scotch descent) was born June 8, 1840, a farmer, market gardener and nurseryman by occupation, having been a resident of Ayr, Neb., since 1872. He was married May 12, 1870, to Miss Maggie Farris, of Coatesville, Chester



Yours truly
W. W. Miller

ADAMS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

County, Pa., her birth having occurred in Philadelphia, May 16, 1845, and their union has been blessed in the birth of four children: Livonia M. (born March 17, 1871, married to Lou Fleming, March 2, 1889, a son of T. C. Fleming, of Ayr), Frank S. C. (born August 22, 1872), Wallace S. (born December 31, 1875), and Ira D. (born July 2, 1877). The third child born to Addison Philleo was Thomas A. E., who was born March 17, 1842, and was married to Maggie Cime, by whom he has three children: Livonia, Lily and Addison. This gentleman is a farmer by occupation, and is also engaged in stock-raising at Cheney, Spokane County, Wash. The fourth child of Addison Philleo is Edgar A., who was born September 19, 1844, a farmer and stockman by occupation. He was married to Miss Etta McDaniels, by whom he had five children. Addison's second marriage was on July 15, 1846, to Mrs. Mary N. Williams, *nee* Rosenberg, a native of Canada, born December 24, 1821, this union resulting in the birth of eight children: Emily L. (born May 29, 1847, wife of M. A. Rosenberg, a farmer of Ayr, Neb.), Livonia C. (born April 3, 1849, wife of J. C. Giddings, by whom she has five children: Clarence, Charles, Jennie, Frank and Emmet), Jane K. (born July 18, 1850, living in Port Byron, Ill.), Bradford N. (born March 8, 1860, a farmer of Adams County, Neb.), Eveline L. (born February 15, 1862, wife of Jesse L. Simpson, of Port Byron, Ill.), and Mordecai. Esther and Amanda are deceased. The father of Addison Philleo was Artemas Philleo, who was born in the State of New York, November 21, 1775, and died in November, 1863. He was married December 11, 1800, to Miss Louisa Loomis, who was born September 23, 1879, and died June 6, 1824, having borne her husband fifteen children. Phineas Philleo, the father of Artemas, was born in Norwalk, Conn., August 28, 1749, married Miss Silence Cummings, of York State, in 1770, their deaths occurring in 1789 and 1798, respectively, in the latter's native State. Samuel Philleo, the father of Phineas, was born in France about 1706, and came to this country with his father, John Fillow, about 1708. The latter was a self-exiled French Huguenot, and was born about 1667, and died in 1765. He came from Paris, and

was a glove maker and weaver by occupation. W. W. Philleo, the immediate subject of this sketch, says that all the Fillows, Philos, and Philleos, with all the variations and spellings of the name in this country, are the descendants of John Fillow. The family throughout are honest, industrious and law-abiding citizens, and although they can not claim to be descended from the French nobility, or to having achieved any very prominent place in American history, yet wherever members of the family are found they are considered honored and useful citizens. Like the Jews, the Philleos have an ancestral pride in industry, and in fostering these hereditary habits; and in connection with this they are possessed of virtue, reliability, strength of character, and prosperity. Historian Foude says, "There are but three ways of living: working, begging or stealing, and he who is not doing the one is doing the other." The Philleos seem to have chosen the former occupation of obtaining a livelihood, and are not ashamed to labor. Nearly every profession is represented, and in the family are to be found able divines, physicians, lawyers and agriculturists, while the muse was not lacking in many. The first school taught in the neighborhood in which W. W. Philleo was born, was in charge of Annett Holmes, and consisted of a two months' term which Mr. Philleo had the good fortune to attend, while an older brother was obliged to stay at home and aid his father in plowing corn and potatoes. His luck did not last long, however, for the following four or five years were spent in assisting his father on the farm, and in hauling logs for rails, and to a neighboring sawmill, so that the entire schooling he received amounted to but about eighteen months. He was often called lazy by his father, and for no other reason than that he was of an inventive turn of mind, and was always trying to find the easiest way of doing his tasks. When about thirteen years of age, he was thrown from a horse, the fall nearly breaking his back, and owing to the fact that he could sit down only for a little while at a time, he could not attend school, so he got an old shot gun and during the spring and fall hunted pigeons, becoming by the time he had reached his sixteenth year, one of the best rifle shots in his portion of Illinois. The following summer after receiv-

ing his injury, his father and uncle thought they would make a printer of him, and so secured him a position in the office of the first daily paper published in Rock Island, Ill., and here he learned to set type, and do the general dirty work of a printing office. He had been apprenticed for two years, and all went well until hot weather approached, when he ran away, and began hunting and trapping, and succeeded in laying up some money. In the spring of 1857 he began canvassing for two books, and in the first part of the season made lots of money, but in the fall and winter lost it all by the failure in the wild cat banks of those good old Democratic days. During the winter of 1857-58, he attended school for two months in Port Byron, Ill., paying his own board and tuition, and while there improved his advantages to the utmost, as he had just begun to learn the value of an education. Upon the approach of spring, he determined he would not return to the farm, and as the war in Utah Territory was then in progress, he decided to go there and see what that country had in store for him. His sole possessions then consisted of \$15, a shot gun and a rifle. He traded the shot gun for a revolver, and finding a party of four young men who were going to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., he joined them, investing all the money he possessed in the expedition. His father strongly opposed this measure, and tried to dissuade him from his purpose, but of no avail, and finding that he was to start on April 14, he met him at Port Byron, and again used all his eloquence to persuade him to remain at home. Upon finding his efforts fruitless, he presented him with \$5, and bade him God speed. After experiencing a good many hardships, they at last reached Fort Leavenworth, where Mr. Philleo hired out to the government as a driver, and accompanied the last detachment of cavalry that was sent out to reinforce Gen. Johnson, at Salt Lake City. After a few days he gave up this work, as he did not like the rough class of men he had fallen in with, and then went to work for Majors Russell and Waddell, breaking Texas steers, and getting trains ready for the plains, they having all the government contracts at that time. Owing to the great demand for ox yokes, he entered that business and made considerable money.

After a time he went to St. Louis, but shortly after returned to Fort Leavenworth, going from there to Lawrence, where his four companions on his journey westward were sick with ague and had spent all their money, their investments in lands proving unfortunate. Mr. Philleo purchased them provisions and medicine, then returned to Fort Leavenworth and went to work for Sam Bissell, who had a large hay contract with the government. After remaining with him for about five months, he entered the employ of Nichols & Morton, eight miles south of Atchison, Kan., and hauled and rafted logs for them until June, 1859, then went to bull whacking for Jones & Cartwright, freighters to Denver, Col., and on his way to that place, stopped at a house on the present site of Marysville, Kan., which was owned by a cripple who had previously run a saloon and gambling house in Port Byron, Ill., in defiance of the law, and had at last been burned out by the indignant citizens. His whereabouts had remained unknown until he was discovered by Mr. Philleo, whom he was very glad to see. His house was a sort of stopping place for men going and returning from the gold fields of Pike's Peak. In 1859, when Mr. Philleo was on one of his trips to Denver, Adams County, Neb., was being surveyed, and when they came back in the month of October, all the river and creek claims were taken by squatters, and also a great deal of the upland near the streams was also taken, the settlers being mostly parties returning from Pike's Peak and Salt Lake. In the fall of 1859, he went to work in Flood's Mill, Cass County, Mo., continuing until July 14, 1860, which was the year of the greatest drouth known in the West. On that date he started for his old home in Illinois, never having written a line to his relatives during his absence. He rented part of his father's farm and settled down to work, but in the spring the Rebellion broke out, and at the first call for troops he, on April 14, left his team harnessed in the stable, and his crops one-half sown, and started for Rock Island, where he was mustered into Company D, Twelfth Regiment Illinois Infantry, and after his term of three months' enlistment had expired, he joined Company A, Thirty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers, and was mustered into the United States

service at Chicago, Ill., August 21, 1861, and was honorably discharged September 23, 1863, by reason of promotion to second lieutenant of Company K, Twenty-second Regiment Corps D, Afrique, later the Ninety-second Regiment United States Colored Infantry, being recommended for promotion in the winter of 1864, to the regular army, but failed to receive such promotion as the following notice shows:

"MORGANZIA. LA., January 28, 1865.

Second Lieut. W. W. Philleo, 92nd U. S. C. Inf.,

SIR:—I have to inform you that you were not examined for promotion, as the surgeon's examination found you physically disqualified.

By order of the Board,

C. B. GASTELL,

Lieut. Col. 81st U. S. Col. Inf., Recorder.

He remained with his regiment until May 16, 1865, and was then mustered out of service by general order from the War Department, on account of physical disability. He first served in Missouri, and while at Boonville was detailed with eighty other men to catch and break a large number of horses and mules. Here his two years' experience on the plains served him in good stead as he was the only man in his entire army who could throw the lariat. He made a dozen lariats and before night had every mule caught, and the soldiers had them harnessed. After holding the position of company teamster for one year, he was chosen wagon master, afterward becoming division wagon and forage master, holding this position until after the siege of Vicksburg. While at New Orleans he was detailed by Gen. Heron to take charge of a wagon train destined for the Red River campaign, and here received his commission. He was in the battles of Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, siege of Vicksburg and the Red River campaign. After his return home from the war, he began the study of medicine, making the diseases of the eye a specialty, and what he learned has since served him well, for during a period of twenty years he has paid out but \$15 for doctor bills, and that for services when he was not at home. He considers the practice of medicine the greatest humbug of the nineteenth century, and surgery the greatest science. In the fall of 1870 he and A. C. Moore became associated in the agricultural implement trade, Crete, Neb., being their chosen place of bus-

iness. At the end of two years Mr. Moore withdrew from the firm, and Mr. Philleo continued alone until in 1874, when he failed on account of the drouths and grasshoppers. On May 16, 1871, he took up a homestead claim in Adams County, and had some breaking done that fall and the following summer. His wife moved on this place July 22, 1872, his brother and a cousin living with her, and in the spring of 1873 he planted an orchard of 200 trees, a large quantity of small fruits, besides 10,000 apple grafts which did very well, as the season was favorable. The next spring he enlarged his orchard, set out 20,000 grafts, but all was destroyed that season by the drouth and grasshoppers, which was rather discouraging. In 1875 Mr. Philleo went to work for the Walter A. Wood Machine Company, and put his wages into apple trees and grafts, and soon had another orchard, 1,100 trees and 20,000 grafts, beside 400 grape vines. This was in the spring of 1876, and all promised well, but grasshoppers came down from the North in immense swarms and destroyed every thing but one apple tree, and about 400 grafts. These he set out the following spring and notwithstanding considerable bad luck, which he had with them until 1882, he has now a fine orchard of 2,700 fruit trees, and acres of grape vines and small fruits, all of which he raises in quantities for sale. For a summer apple he recommends the Early Harvest, Red Astrachan and Duchess; for fall, the Wealthy, Haas and Snow, and for winter, Ben Davis, Pewaukee and Rowls Janet. Politically he is a Republican, but would not vote for his best friend unless his views in regard to public measures were in accord with his own. In the fall of 1886 he was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. J. B. Hartwell was nominated for Senator, and A. V. Cole and H. C. Minnix for representatives. Mr. Philleo, thinking to test the position of the candidates, drew up the following: "To the electors of Adams County: I hereby certify that if elected to represent Adams County in the next Legislative Assembly, I pledge myself not to receive or ride on a pass from any railroad company, nor will I solicit or receive one for any other person whomsoever, and that I will introduce or support a bill making it a felony for any

elected or appointed officer in the State of Nebraska, senators and representatives to the United States Congress included, to receive and ride on a pass, and that I will introduce or support a railroad freight bill for this State pro rata with the freights now charged from Omaha to the sea board, and will do all in my power to secure the passage of the same; also House Roll No. 329, of the session of 1885." This was a bill drawn by Mr. Philleo to compel railroad and other corporations to make and keep in repair public crossings, which became a law in 1887. This he subsequently presented to the candidates of the Anti-Monopoly party, who were H. P. Fitch, H. G. Armitage and H. M. Palmer, and they having signed it he cast his vote and used his influence for their election. In the winter of 1873 he drew up a petition to Congress asking for a repeal of the pre-emption laws, in lieu thereof giving a timber culture act. He had 100 of these petitions printed and sent to postmasters all over the State for signatures, and this petition was placed in the hands of Senator P. W. Hitchcock, of Nebraska, who at once drew up a bill in accord with the petition (except that it did not repeal the pre-emption laws), which passed both Houses of Congress and became a law March 3, 1873. At this writing (March 6, 1890), there are several living in Adams County who signed this petition and know the facts as set forth, but the credit of its passage has always been given P. W. Hitchcock, and Senator Paddock, who has amended it; while every tree that grows upon a timber claim is a living monument to W. W. Philleo.

A. F. Powers, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. This gentleman is another representative citizen who owes his nativity to Illinois, his birth occurring in St. Clair County in 1829, and is the second in a family of eleven children, five now living, born to the union of John and Nancy (Ford) Powers, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut, respectively. The parents were married in St. Clair County, Ill., whither John Powers had emigrated at the age of sixteen years, and here he followed farming until 1834, when he moved to La Salle County, Ill. There he received his final summons in 1862. The mother died in Kansas in 1874. Grandfather

Aaron Ford was a soldier in the War of 1812. On both sides of the family, the Powers and Fords can trace their ancestors back to the Mayflower. A. F. Powers was early taught the duties of farm life, and received his education in the district schools of La Salle County, Ill. He commenced farming for himself at the age of twenty-five years, and continued thus employed until the breaking out of the war. He then enlisted in Brookfield Township, La Salle County, in 1863, in the Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Veteran Infantry for one year, and was mustered into service at Joliet. He remained with the Eleventh until it was mustered out. He was in the engagement at Fort Blakely, and was transferred to the Eight Illinois Infantry, being in the Red River country on garrison duty. He was honorably discharged at New Orleans in February, 1866, and afterward returned to La Salle County, Ill. Previous to the war, in 1856, he had married Miss Margaret S. Leech, a native of Ohio, who died in Illinois on February 26, 1862, during which time he resided on a farm he had purchased in Brookfield Township, La Salle County, Ill. By that union were born three children: Robert W. (married and resides at Culbertson, Neb.), John F. (died in 1860), and Aaron S. (died in 1862). Mr. Powers was married the second time in La Salle County, Ill., on January 1, 1867, to Miss Ann Clark, a native of Scotland, and the daughter of Thomas and Agnes (Nevin) Clark, natives of Scotland, who came to America in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Clark settled in Allen Township, La Salle County, and here the father tilled the soil until his death, which occurred in June, 1886. The mother is still living and resides in Livingston County, Ill., in the vicinity of Dwight. After his marriage Mr. Powers continued to reside on his farm in Brookfield Township until his removal to Adams County, Neb., in 1874. He entered 160 acres of land and bought a tree claim, and purchased railroad land. He commenced improving the farm, erected a good frame house and substantial outbuildings, and is now the owner of 476 acres of good land, all in a good state of cultivation. He raises some stock. He is independent in his political views, and votes for the best men and measures; he is the present supervisor of West

Blue Township, and is re-elected for the two ensuing years; he is chairman of the board of supervisors, also chairman of the building committee, and assisted in organizing the township. He was justice of the peace from the organization of the precinct until elected to his present office, and has been a member of the school board, being quite active in educational matters. Socially he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church at Hansen, Mr. Powers being one of the elders. To his second marriage were born nine children, five now living: John T., Aaron C., Agnes May (died March 15, 1879, at the age of eight years), James A. (died March 16, 1879, at the age of six years), Ann E. (died March 12, 1879, at the age of nearly four years), Bertha E. (died March 27, 1879, at the age of six months), Inez E., Ida A. and Phoebe I. Mr. Powers is one of the early settlers of the township; has seen the full development of the county, and has assisted very much in the building up of the same. He has taken a decided interest in everything for the good of Adams County; is progressive in his ideas, and is taking an active interest in the court house (being chairman of the building committee), erected at a cost of about \$66,587.50.

C. R. Powers, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. In enumerating the enterprising and progressive agriculturists and stockmen of this township, Mr. Powers must not be overlooked. He owes his nativity to La Salle County, Ill., where his birth occurred in 1837, and is the son of John and Nancy (Ford) Powers, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut, respectively. The father moved to Illinois in 1822, when a boy, settled in St. Clair County, and was there married. He moved to La Salle County, Ill., in 1834, and there followed farming for many years. He was magistrate for many years, and died in 1862. The mother survived him until 1874. Their family consisted of eleven children, five of whom are still living. C. R. Powers passed his boyhood days in the common schools of La Salle County, Ill., and commenced life for himself by farming in Illinois. He was married in his native county in 1861, to Miss Phoebe R. Greenlees, a native of New York, and the daugh-

ter of Andrew and Rebecca (Dominy) Greenlees, natives respectively of Scotland and New York. Her parents came to Illinois in about 1840; the father engaged in farming, and made that State his home until his death, which occurred about 1859. The mother is still living and resides on the old farm in Illinois. After his marriage Mr. Powers settled in La Salle County, and carried on farming until 1873, when he moved to Adams County, Neb., and there purchased 292 acres of wild land. This he has since improved, and has erected a good house and out buildings. He is engaged in raising and feeding stock, and is making a specialty of Short-horn cattle. He assisted in the organization of West Blue Township, and is a representative citizen of the same. He and Mrs. Powers and family are members of the Presbyterian Church, at Hastings. To his marriage were born five children: Clara R., Mary, Ella, Robert and Arthur. Mr. Powers is a great temperance advocate.

William Turner Putt, M. D., is the present efficient superintendent of the Parkview Cemetery, and was one of the leading spirits in its establishment. He was born in Torquay, Devonshire, England, October 10, 1850, being a son of John and Sarah (Turner) Putt, who were also born in England, the former's birth occurring in 1823. He died at Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill., in 1867, still survived by his widow, who is now sixty-seven years of age, and is a resident of Washington, Kan. Dr. W. T. Putt is the eldest of eight children, four now living, and came with his parents to the United States in 1854, and took up his abode in Grundy County, Ill., subsequently removing to Kendall County, Ill.; he attended the public schools of Lisbon, and later entered the Jennings Seminary at Aurora, Ill. He learned the carpenter's trade of his father, but in 1869 he dropped his tools to take up the study of medicine, entering the office of Dr. N. G. Smith, at Lisbon, Ill. After considerable preparatory study he entered the Electric Medical Institute, at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which institution he graduated on May 13, 1874, locating the following June for practice at Oswego, Ill., where he was a successful practitioner from 1874 to 1884. In March of the latter year he came to Adams County, Neb., and

until 1886 was engaged in farming, since which time he has been superintendent of the Parkview Cemetery, the beautiful appearance of which is largely due to his untiring efforts, and no better man could be found to fill the position. In 1889 he invented and had copyrighted Putt's Atlas System of Cemetery Records, which is the most complete book of records ever placed before the public. He owns six acres of fine land within the corporation of Hastings, and intends making many valuable improvements thereon in a short time. The Doctor is a Republican in his political views, and socially is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the I. O. O. F. On February 10, 1876, he was married to Miss Catherine E. Hall, who was born in New Jersey, April 25, 1851, a daughter of John D. and Gertrude (Carkhuff) Hall, also natives of that State. Dr. Putt and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and the esteem which is accorded them is conceded by all to be well merited.

Adam Reader, farmer and stock raiser, Ayr, Neb. Adams County is indeed fortunate in having among her foreign-born element men whose industry, strict attention to business, economy and perseverance have produced such substantial results in the different affairs with which they have connected themselves. Mr. Reader belongs to this class, for, originally from Germany, his location in this county dates from 1880. He was born in 1850, and is the son of Adam J. and Elizabeth (Rummel) Reader, both natives of Germany. The father's birth occurred in 1813, and he was married in the old country to Miss Rummel about 1837. He was a weaver by trade, and followed this for many years in Germany. He came to the United States in 1854, located in La Salle County, Ill., about fifteen miles from Ottawa, and there tilled the soil. He died in 1856, and the mother, in Nebraska, in 1884. Their family consisted of the following children: John, Dorothea, Barbara, Adam and Frederick (who was born in Illinois.) Adam Reader assisted his mother on the farm in Illinois, received his education in the schools of that State, and in 1871 was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Heilman, daughter of A. S. Heilman, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Reader bought land in Illinois about 1873, but sold it in 1879, and

in 1880 emigrated to Adams County, Neb., settling in Zero Township. He purchased 320 acres of land in Section 11, and since then has added to this until he now owns 640 acres, which is well improved. The fruits of his marriage are: Henry A., Lizzie A., Celia J., John F., Freddie S. (deceased) and Charley A. (also deceased). Mr. Reader was elected moderator of his school district in 1881, and has held that position ever since. He was elected supervisor of Zero Township in 1886, held this position for three terms, and went out in 1890. He is a Republican in his political preferences. He is active in church work, and he and wife are members of the Evangelical Church. His brother John was in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry for three years during the late war, and was shot and killed at the battle of Hartsville, Tenn.

J. E. Reed, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Reed has been a resident of Blaine Township, Adams County, Neb., since 1878, and during that time has lived upon his neat and pleasant homestead of 160 acres, all under cultivation, gaining in the meantime a large acquaintance and the confidence of all who know him. His birth occurred in New Hampshire, in 1841, and he was the eldest of six children, the result of the union of Erastus B. and Bettie H. (Marks) Reed. The father was born in 1811, and died in New Hampshire in 1867. He was a shoemaker by trade, but also followed farming, and was a man universally respected. He and wife were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was trustee of the same for years. The mother died in 1854. They were the parents, as before stated, of six children: J. E., Josiah M., Mary J., George C., Lizzie and Anggenette. J. E. Reed remained in New Hampshire until twenty-one years of age, when he went to Lowell, Mass., and there remained three years. In 1865 he moved to Illinois with his parents, settled in Lee County, and there followed farming. While living in Lowell, Mass., he was married to Miss Josephine Patton, of Bangor, Me., and the daughter of Joseph Patton. To this marriage were born two children: Lizzie P., and Addie F. (deceased). Mrs. Reed died in Illinois in 1868, and in 1871 Mr. Reed took for his second wife Miss Sarah Snodgrass, a

native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Joseph Snodgrass, who emigrated to Illinois in 1865. The fruits of this union were four children: James D., Arthur (who died January 30, 1889), Dwight L. and Ruby E. Mr. Reed's eldest daughter by his first wife is now the wife of Mr. Smith Luick, of Belmont, Wright County, Iowa. Mr. Reed emigrated to Nebraska in 1878, and named the township Blaine, on the day that James G. Blaine was nominated for president. Mr. Reed is active in political matters, and is a Republican in his views. He was a member of the school board for seven years, was supervisor during 1883, 1884 and 1885, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Hastings Lodge No. 50. He is also a member of the Farmers' Alliance. Mrs. Reed is a member of the Baptist Church.

Enos H. Reed, contractor, was born in Livingston County, N. Y., July 14, 1842, and is a son of Hiram and Anna (Roberts) Reed, both of whom were born in York State, the former in 1818, and the latter in 1820. The father died in the month of May, 1842, but the mother still lives, and resides in her native State. The paternal grandfather, John Reed, was born in Connecticut, but was an early settler of Livingston County, N. Y., Reed's Corners being named after him. He died at this place about 1838, his wife's death occurring in the same State when about eighty-seven years of age. Enos H. Reed was reared and educated in Livingston County, and at the age of eighteen years, or in 1861, he left New York and emigrated to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where he followed farming for one year, after which he moved to Michigan, and was in the lumber business for ten years. In 1874 he removed to Colorado, and during a residence of nine years in that State was engaged in selling sewing machines and musical instruments. Since the fall of 1882 he has been a resident of Hastings, and has given his attention to the grading of lawns. He was married, in 1881, to Miss Pet Loomis, who was born in Niles, Mich., in 1852, a daughter of Dr. Joel Loomis, who died in 1877. Her mother, who was formerly Miss Virginia Brown, is still living, and makes her home with Mrs. Reed, being in her sixty-fifth year. Mr. and Mrs. Reed have three children: Orsen, Myron

and Charles. Mr. Reed is a Democrat, a Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of the order of the Mystic Shrine. Besides owning five houses and three vacant lots in the city of Hastings, he also owns a one-half section of land in Adams County, all of which has been acquired through good management and industry.

Samuel F. Reed is the owner of 280 acres of land, which is one of the finest farms in Adams County for successful agricultural purposes, and the admirable manner in which it is conducted shows that energy, enterprise and good management are among its owner's chief characteristics. He was born in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1847, being the eldest of eight children born to Mitchel and Sarah (Foster) Reed, the latter a daughter of George Foster, an Englishman. Mitchel Reed was born in the Buckeye State in 1827, and was one of a large family of children reared by Samuel Reed. He was married in Ohio in 1846, and reared part of his family there, their names being: Samuel, Jennie (Mrs. Armstrong), William D. (now of Hastings, Neb.), Emmet, George, Frank, Ella (Mrs. Johnston), and Thomas. In 1855 Mr. Reed moved to Iowa, and after residing in Wapello County until 1859 he removed to Page County, and settled on a farm, where he is still living. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is his political views he is a Republican. Samuel F. Reed spent his school days in Iowa, but in 1868 started out in life for himself, and was engaged in teaching school for several years. His marriage to Catherine Nicholas took place in 1868, she being a daughter of J. J. and Lucinda (Lewis) Nicholas, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Indiana. Mr. Reed removed with his family to Nebraska in 1873, and first homesteaded 160 acres of land in Adams County, which by good management and strict attention to details, he has since increased to 280 acres. His property is well improved and stocked with fifty head of cattle, 100 head of hogs and the necessary horses for a farm. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in politics he is a Republican, being elected on this ticket in 1887 to the office of township assessor. Besides holding the office of justice of the peace several years he has been a member of his district

school board. His children are: Eva (who is the wife of G. A. Gruver, living in Hayes County, Neb.) and is the mother of one child, Bertha), Floyd, Orin, Mabel, Gertrude, Minnie and Samuel.

Charles C. Rittenhouse is a professional architect, and is the oldest in the State of Nebraska in point of continuous labor at the business. His birth occurred in Van Wert County, Ohio, August 16, 1852, and he is a son of M. M. and Christina (Meely) Rittenhouse, who were born in Wayne County, Ohio, and Adams County, Pa., on June 5, 1827, and in 1828, respectively. They are now residing in Van Wert County, Ohio, and are prosperous tillers of the soil. The paternal grandfather, Christian Rittenhouse, was born in Montgomery County, Pa., January 17, 1803, and died in Steuben County, Ind., in August, 1889. Charles C. Rittenhouse is the second of six children, and from his earliest youth was reared to farm labor, receiving a fair knowledge of books in the district schools near his home. From the age of seventeen until he had attained his majority he was engaged in teaching the "young idea" during the winter months, but in the spring of 1871 he began serving an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, the compensation he received for his labor being \$8 per month, and the time spent at the work, fifteen hours per day. After becoming a thorough master of the business he began contracting on his own account, and the winter of 1875-76 was spent in the office of Tolan & Son, architects of Fort Wayne, Ind. He remained in this city until August, 1877, when he came to Hastings, and in September, 1878, he opened an office of his own, being now the leading architect of Central Nebraska. The following are some of the most important buildings he has planned: Public school building, of Sidney, Neb.; public school building, York, Neb.; State Asylum for the Chronic Insane, Hastings, Neb.; court house Ogalalla, Neb.; First National Bank, Holdrege, Neb.; Bartenbach's Opera House, Grand Island, Neb.; First National Bank, McCook, Neb.; the Citizens' National Bank, and the public school buildings of Grand Island; the Methodist Episcopal College building, Central City, Neb.; and the following buildings in Hastings: Nebraska Loan and Trust

Company's building, Kerr Opera House, Hastings College buildings, public school buildings, the Masonic Hall and the Adams County court house, now in process of erection. Politically Mr. Rittenhouse is a Democrat, and in 1886 was elected a member of the city council from the Second ward, and is at present acting mayor of the city. He is Past Master of Hastings Masonic Lodge No. 50, and is also a member of the I. O. O. F. In November, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss Vira Morse, who was born in Iowa City, Iowa, in 1851, and by her has three children: Frank H., Ralph G. and Charles C.

O. C. Rogers, farmer and stock raiser, Ayr, Neb. For a period of nineteen years Mr. Rogers has been a resident of Adams County, and during that time he has seen the entire growth and development of the country. He came to Nebraska in company with Tom Fleming when there were but five settlers in Adams County, and they hunted and trapped together for the first few years. Deer and buffalo were plentiful, wolves were also numerous, and Mr. Rogers, with his unerring rifle, has brought down many of these animals. Mr. Rogers was born in Litchfield County, Conn., in 1838, and was the second in a family of five children, the result of the union of H. N. and Juniata (Hart) Rogers, natives of New York. The father was born about 1810 or 1812, and was a blacksmith by trade, although he also owned a large farm in Illinois, whither he had moved at an early date. He was a Republican in politics, and both he and wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he being class leader in the same. Both died in Illinois, the father in 1866 and the mother in 1885. Their children were named as follows: T. H., O. C., Aaron, Phoebe and Henry. O. C. Rogers' school boy days were spent in New York State, and at the breaking out of the war he enlisted in Company G, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, siege of Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Marietta, Peach Tree Creek, Stone Mountain, Burnt Hickory, Franklin, Tenn., Nashville, Atlanta. Although he received five gun-shot wounds, Mr. Rogers never left the company, and has never asked for a

pension. He served faithfully for four years and four months, and was then honorably discharged in Texas. Returning to Illinois he followed farming until 1871, when he emigrated to Nebraska and settled on Section 28, on 160 acres of good land, which he still owns. He was married, in 1873, to Mrs. Mary M. Wilson, a daughter of Rev. John Fleming. Mr. Rogers is a member of the G. A. R., and was a member of both the Odd Fellows and Masons. He is interested in the upbuilding of the county, and is active in educational and religious matters. He has been a member of the school board. His vote is cast with the Republican party.

A. J. Rogers, M. D. To the skill and talent of this gentleman is due the appreciation and gratitude of hundreds, for he has built up an enviable reputation as a practitioner of the "healing art," and has restored scores to health and happiness. He was born in Henry County, Iowa, in 1851, and is the sixth of ten children born to Dr. Levi J. and Maria (Husted) Rogers, the former of whom removed from his native State of Pennsylvania to the Hawkeye State in 1845, he being one of the pioneers of Henry County. After making his home there until 1885 he came to Hastings, Neb., and was in the active practice of his profession up to the time of his death, which occurred in August, 1888. His wife still survives him, and makes her home with her children. Dr. A. J. Rogers attended the village school at Salem, Iowa, until seventeen years of age, and, being desirous of acquiring a more thorough education, he entered Whittier College, of that place, and while in this institution did not neglect the opportunities offered him. In 1879 he concluded to follow in his father's footsteps, and accordingly entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Keokuk, Iowa, from which he graduated in March, 1881, as an M. D. In June of the same year he was married to Miss Sarah Lynn, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of George W. Lynn, one of the early settlers of Henry County, and soon after went to Afton, Union County, where he entered actively upon the practice of his profession. Sixteen months later he removed to Letts, and after spending about the same length of time at this place he, in 1884, removed to Minden, Neb., and eighteen months later to Blue Hill.

After spending two years in the last named place he went to Hastings, and in November, 1888, located at Juniata, where his practice has met with gratifying results, as it could not fail to do, for he is thoroughly fitted by study and experience for a superior physician and surgeon. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen, White Cover Lodge No. 1240, and since locating in Adams County he has been deeply interested in all matters pertaining to its welfare. He and wife have one child, Inez, aged seven years. The Doctor and two brothers resided in Red Oak, Iowa, one of whom, Elliott L., has been auditor of Montgomery County for five years, and is now filling his third term. Prior to this he was postmaster of the town for nine years, but resigned. He has always been a staunch Republican and an active politician of that county. The other brother, Hiram S., is in partnership with Dr. Hiatt, and they constitute the leading medical firm of Red Oak. Of the four sisters, two, Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Hollingsworth, resides in Hastings, where Mr. Barnes is a prominent clothier and Mr. Hollingsworth an active speculator. Another sister, Mrs. Phar, resides in Minden, her husband being a leading druggist of that place, where he has a fine store and a large patronage. Mrs. Pray, the youngest sister, is a resident of Chicago, her husband being a traveling salesman.

Ur. S. Rohrer is a member of the well established and reliable firm of Cramer & Rohrer, of Hastings, Neb., which firm was established in 1886. The subject of this sketch was born in Sterling, Ill., February 5, 1859, and is an only child born to the marriage of B. F. Rohrer and Esther Stauffer, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, the former's birth occurring December 29, 1833, and the latter's in August, 1841. They are now residing in Sterling, of which place they are old and prominent settlers. In this town Ur. S. Rohrer was reared to manhood, and here he received his early education; but after passing a rather monotonous youth he became desirous of supplementing his primary education with a more thorough knowledge, such as could be obtained in more advanced institutions of learning, and in 1878 he left the paternal roof and entered Knox College, at Galesburg, Ill., where he

spent four years, his career being marked by rapid advancement. After finishing his collegiate course, and being well versed in the National game—base ball—he began making this his calling, and played with some of the best teams in the West. In 1885 he came to Hastings, Neb., as catcher for the Hastings club, and continued playing ball off and on until 1887. In 1885 he entered the employ of A. H. Cramer, and since 1886 has been in partnership with this gentleman in the abstract business. He is a representative of the energetic young business men of the place, and possesses sufficient energy, pluck and perseverance to insure his future success in life. Being a staunch Republican in politics, his first presidential vote was cast for James G. Blaine in 1884. December 26, 1887, was the date of his marriage with Miss Kate F. Forder, a native of Sterling, Ill., and a daughter of William Forder. She and Mr. Rohrer have one child, a son named William U.

James Ronian, familiarly known as "Dad Ronian," is the present proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, Hastings, Neb. According to the family record of the Ronian family, he was born at a quarter past three o'clock on August 22, 1828, in the city of Providence, R. I., and his mother, being sickly, did not furnish the proper amount of nourishment, so he naturally took to eating oysters, which produced a sudden growth, more in circumference than in height. After a period of ten years his parents concluded to remove to New York, and as there were no railroads at that time, they embarked on the raging Erie Canal. After a long, tedious journey they landed in Buffalo, N. Y., and then moved back twenty miles in the wilderness where, on a clearing of only five acres, they commenced the toil and hardships of pioneer life. They lived in a small log house, with a stick chimney, plastered with clay outside and in, and with a large flat stone for a hearth. Stoves were an unknown luxury at that day, and all their cooking was done with pot hooks and trammels. Often when the wind was high their chimney would not carry off the smoke, and as a consequence it was often black with smoke in the room. How little do we of the present day, with every convenience around us, know of hard

times. Then commenced a series of cold, rainy seasons, with early frosts, that cut the corn off too early, and as that was the principal means of sustenance of fattening their pork, these animals would suffer severely if beech nuts were not plentiful. The mother always cut the hair of the children, and to get it even turned a quart bowl over the top of their heads and then cut around the edge of it. She did this even after they were grown. The young men of to-day go to a tonsorial artist (used to be called a barber), pay ten cents for a shave, more than double that amount for a shampoo, twenty-five cents per hair cut, and fifty cents for a bottle of Oriental hair balm, after which they stand on the street corners, admire each other and talk of "hard times," while their wives are at home sewing a 7x9 patch on their under garments. After a few years Mr. Ronian took Horace Greeley's advice to go West, and landed in Montgomery County, Iowa, where he was engaged in the dairy business for a number of years. He also engaged in market gardening and agricultural pursuits, and met with excellent success; but on account of the ill health of some of his family, who were afflicted with asthma, he was advised by the doctors to try a change of climate. He then moved to Hastings, and has been running the Commercial Hotel ever since. This is one of the leading houses in Hastings; in fact, the best known hotel in the West, and was never in better order than at the present time. He has fifty-four beds, all in fine order, and as the genial landlord remarks: "Not a bed-bug in the house, for the rent is so high they would not stay." He has a corps of as good cooks as are to be found in the State, and he, himself, is a prince among hotel men; and is naturally suited and adapted to it. He keeps his help constantly under supervision, and sees that guests are properly cared for. Traveling salesmen receive special attention, and are made easy and comfortable by Mr. Ronian, who possesses that feeling of kindly hospitality which characterizes the people of this State. He was married in 1852 to Miss Mary Eldridge, a native of New York, and three children have blessed this union: George, Jennie and Gertrude. In politics Mr. Ronian is an out and out Republican. His father, James Ronian, was born

in Ireland in 1800, came to the United States and settled in Rhode Island. His death occurred in 1880. He was a tanner by trade.

James A. Rose is a member of the firm of Rose Bros., plumbers of Hastings, Neb., and although he has only been engaged in the plumbing business for the past four years, he has seen his business grow from insignificant proportions to its present admirable breadth, extending over a large area. He was born in Morgan County, Ohio, December 25, 1854, being one of the five surviving members of a family of seven children born to Peter and Elizabeth (Watts) Rose, natives of Ohio, and now residents of Adams County. His early days were spent in farm work, and his education was received in the district schools of his native county. He came with his parents to Adams County, Neb., in 1873, and with them settled on a farm ten miles southwest of Hastings, where he continued to remain until 1879, at which time he came to Hastings and began selling wind-mills and pumps, adding in 1886, as above stated, the plumbing business, which is proving a success financially. He is a man of energetic and enterprising disposition, keeps thoroughly abreast with the times, and being active in furthering the interests of the city, is regarded as one of its pillars. He is a Republican, and in the spring of 1889 was elected a member of the city council from the First ward, and is now a member of the finance committee. In 1879 he was married to Miss Lizzie Martin, by whom he has five children: Etta, Frank, Lulu, Ralph and Guy.

L. A. Royce, real estate, loan and insurance broker, Hastings, Neb. The magnitude of the real estate interests in this city and county and the activity in the market have enlisted the services of many of our most responsible men, and among the number is Mr. L. A. Royce. He was born in the Buckeye State in 1835, moved from there to Iowa, and in 1878 came to Hastings, Neb., where he has since been engaged in the above mentioned business. He has been quite successful, and is one of the progressive and live business men of the place.

J. W. Ruby, farmer and stockman, Pauline, Neb. Kentucky has given to Adams County many estimable citizens, but she has contributed none more

highly respected, or more worthy of honor and esteem, than the subject of this sketch. He is one of the pioneer settlers of Adams County, and entered 160 acres in Section 26, Little Blue Township. He first erected a dugout, but later a log house, and is now one of the enterprising men of the county. He was born in Louisville, Ky., in 1842, and was the third in a family of thirteen children born to the union of George Washington and Tacy (Riley) Ruby, natives of the Blue Grass State also, and descendants of old and much respected families. The father was one of the sturdy sons of toil, and at an early day emigrated to Keokuk, Iowa, where he farmed until his death in 1877. The mother is still living and resides in Keokuk, Iowa. J. W. Ruby passed the early years of his life in duties upon the home place, received his education in the schools of Iowa, and commenced farming for himself in that State. He was married in Cass County, Ill., in 1867, to Miss Lydia C. Abney, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Paul and Elizabeth (Medlin) Abney, natives of Tennessee. Her parents emigrated to Iowa at an early day, and to Adams County, Neb., in 1872, where they entered land. The father died in Boone County, Iowa, in 1883, but the mother is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Ruby have been born five children: Edward F. (married and resides in Little Blue Township), Willie (married and resides at home), Alice (now Mrs. Fields, of this township), Belle and Johnnie. J. W. Ruby cultivated the soil in Iowa until his removal to Nebraska, since which time he has continued that pursuit. He was the first settler south of the Blue in Adams County, and Hastings was not heard of at that time. His nearest market was Beatrice, and there also was the nearest mill. Mr. Ruby is active in politics and votes with the Democratic party, but is no office seeker. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are members of the United Brethren Church. Being one of the first settlers of Adams County, Mr. Ruby has been a witness to its marvelous growth, and it has not been so very long ago that the Indians were numerous here. He came to this county with only a team and is now out of debt and the owner of a good farm.

Alexander Rutherford, farmer and stockman of

Denver township, Adams County, Neb., was born near Belfast, Ireland, in 1838, being the eighth of ten children born to Thomas and Fannie (Stinson) Rutherford, both being born, reared and married in Scotland, removing to Ireland soon after the last named event, and there died in 1870 and 1882, respectively. Their children's names are: William, Thomas, Jane, James, John, Robert, Alexander, Adam and Elisa. Alexander Rutherford was about thirteen years of age when, in company with his brother Robert, he came to the United States, landing at New Orleans. After spending one year in St. Louis they went to Rock Island County, Ill., where they found employment at farm work, and here Alexander was married in 1864 to Miss Anna Langdell, a daughter of William W. and Elizabeth (Warren) Langdell, who were born in England and removed to Illinois in 1850, settling in Rock Island County, where they both died. In 1868 Mr. Rutherford and his wife removed to Poweshiek County, Iowa, and there he was engaged in farming and blacksmithing until 1879, when he came to Adams County, Neb., purchased 160 acres of land, and has since been engaged in tilling the soil. His land is well improved and stocked, and his residence is substantial, commodious and convenient. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, a Democrat in his politics, and a patron of all worthy enterprises. A family of ten children have been born to himself and wife: William W. (who died in 1866), Lizzie W., Adam, George, Alfred T., Benjamin W. (who died in 1878), Harry T., Frank, Charley A. and Gracie (who died in 1885).

Frederick J. Schauffelberger, M. D. This energetic gentleman, who has acquired a flattering reputation as a physician, was born in Freedom, Beaver County, Pa., April 28, 1850, and is a son of Jacob and Margaretha (Fritcher) Schauffelberger, natives of Baden, Germany, who emigrated to the United States, settling first in Pennsylvania, and later in Hancock County, Ohio. Here the father plied his trade, that of wagon making, and also followed the occupation of farming until 1882, when he retired from active business life, and moved to Fostoria, Ohio, where he at present resides. Dr. Schauffelberger received his education and rearing in Hancock County,

Ohio, and finished his literary education in Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio. After being in the drug business in Fostoria, Ohio, twelve years he, in 1881, began the study of medicine in the office of Drs. Henry & Meyers, and thus favored with excellent preparatory training, he entered the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, Pa., graduating as an M. D. in 1884. After practicing in Fostoria, Ohio, for two and a half years, he, in October, 1886, came to Hastings, Neb., and here his professional career from the first has been one of gratifying results. The Doctor is a Republican, and his first presidential vote was cast for U. S. Grant. He is a member of all the Masonic bodies, belonging to the York Rite of Masonry in Hastings, Neb., and is the present T. I. M. of Hastings Council No. 8. He is also a Past Master of Fostoria Lodge No. 288, A. F. & A. M., Fostoria, Ohio. The Doctor was married October 9, 1877, to Eva J., daughter of Jacob J. and Rachel A. (Harsh) Myers. Mrs. Schauffelberger was born in Fostoria, Ohio, December 8, 1853. They have one child, Frederick J., who was born February 9, 1881.

B. F. Schlegel, hardware merchant, Kenesaw, Neb. Prominent among the commercial resources of the town of Kenesaw must be included the trade carried on in hardware, etc., and among those who hold a responsible position in this line may be mentioned the name of Mr. B. F. Schlegel, one of the successful business men of the place. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Northumberland County, February 3, 1840, and is one of the early settlers of Western Adams County, Neb. His parents, Peter and Susannah (Bohner) Schlegel, were both natives of the Keystone State, where they passed their entire lives, and where the father carried on agricultural pursuits. The Schlegel family is of German descent, and have long been residents of Pennsylvania, the paternal grandfather being a soldier in the Revolutionary War. B. F. Schlegel's time was divided in early life in assisting his father on the farm and in getting a meager education in the common schools. When about seventeen years of age, he went to Erie County, Ohio, where he engaged as a farm laborer. In 1861 he enlisted for three months in Company E, Eighth Ohio Volun-

teer Infantry, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned to his home, and later enlisted in Company H, Forty-sixth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, re-enlisting in the same company three years later. He participated in the engagements at Winchester, Cedar Mountain, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Peach Tree Creek, and several other prominent battles. He was in Sherman's march to the sea, and at the time of his discharge, which occurred at Harrisburg on July 22, 1865, was serving as first sergeant. Soon after the close of the war he went to Ohio, and the following spring came to Nebraska, locating in Dakota County, where he remained two years. After spending the following year in Iowa, he returned to his Eastern home and later traveled extensively in the Northern and Western States, finally selecting Kenesaw as his place of residence, locating there in 1878. He purchased a farm one mile east of the town, and devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. He remained on his farm until 1888, when he moved to the town of Kenesaw, where he purchased his present hardware business in partnership with S. H. Smith, the present firm. In 1867 he married Miss Eliza Combs, a native of Ohio, who died in 1868. In 1871 he married Miss Rosa A. Reed, a native of Pennsylvania, and the fruits of this union have been one son and three daughters. Mr. Schlegel is a Republican in his political views, and his first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, at Atlanta, Ga., in 1864. He served as treasurer of Kenesaw Township for three years, and has also been a member of the school board a number of times. He is a member of the G. A. R., Kenesaw Lodge No 144, and is also a member of the Kenesaw Building and Improvement Association.

P. J. Schmitz is accounted a prosperous agriculturist and stockman of Adams County, Neb., and like the majority of the natives of Wisconsin he is progressive in his views, and possesses original and excellent ideas regarding the management and conduct of his farm. He was born in 1861, and is the third child born to Henry and Catherine (Barbian) Schmitz, the mother a native of Germany. Henry Schmitz, also a native of Germany, was born in 1839, and in 1852 came to the United States, and

settled near Janesville, in Rock County, Wis., where he married and followed cabinet making for a living. In 1861, however, he took up farming in Grant County, Wis., and in 1874 moved to Adams County, Neb., and in addition to taking up a homestead claim also purchased land, and now has a valuable farm amounting to 560 acres, which is finely improved. He and wife are members of the Catholic Church. P. J. Schmitz spent his school days in Grant County, Wis., but upon his father's removal to Nebraska he came also, and in 1881 began farming for himself, continuing three years, after which he followed the carpenter's trade five or six years; then again resumed farming, which he expects to make his calling through life. He settled on his present farm in 1888, and has it well improved and stocked, and is considered one of the enterprising young farmers of the county. He was married, in 1889, to Miss Aircie Lawhead, a daughter of Alfred and Catherine (Flint) Lawhead. Mr. Schmitz' brothers and sisters are as follows: John H. (who resides in Roseland, Adams County, Neb.), Mary (Mrs. Derricks, living in Adams County), Minnie (wife of G. M. Gafford, of Roseland), and Albert, Annie and Eva, at home.

Henry Schnuelle, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. In Sheboygan County, Wis., in 1854, was born to Fredrick and Rickie (Boedieker) Schnuelle, a son, who is now taken as the subject of this sketch. The father was a successful agriculturist, is a Republican in politics and a public spirited citizen. He is a member of the Reformed Church. His wife, who was also a member of that church, died in 1880. They reared ten children to maturity: Fredrick, Rickie, Sophia (deceased), Henry, Simon, August, William, Anna, and Herman and Caroline (twins). Henry Schnuelle was the fourth in order of birth, and as he grew up received instruction in the district schools of his native State. At the age of twenty-one years he went to Iowa, where he remained for three years, and then in 1877 he emigrated to Nebraska, where he bought 160 acres, where he now lives. It was all prairie at that time, but this he has improved, and now has a fine farm. He was married in December, 1881, to Miss Minnie Haubrock, daughter of Charles and

Louisa Haubrock, and a native of Illinois. Her parents moved to Nebraska in 1878, settled in Hanover Township, and there they are still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Schnuelle were born five children: Charley (born October 31, 1882), Clara (born March 30, 1884), Willie (born December 26, 1885), Martha (born August 6, 1887), and Dora (born February 22, 1889). Mr. Schnuelle is deeply interested in the upbuilding of churches and schools, and the welfare of the county. He is honest and industrious, and all his property is the result of hard work. He was elected supervisor of the town in 1885, and since then has held the office of town clerk, filling this position with credit and satisfaction. He is a Republican in politics.

S. V. Scott has been identified with the farming interests of Adams County, Neb., since 1873, and since his first entry of 160 acres he has become the owner of 240 acres of well improved and well stocked land. He was born in New Brunswick in 1844, and was the fifth in a family of children raised by Thomas W. and Anne E. (Floyd) Scott, the former a native of Maine. His early life was spent in that State, but he was married in New Brunswick, and a family of eleven children blessed his union: John, Emmaline S., William (deceased), Lydia (deceased), S. V., Thomas, David V., William Z., James (who died in infancy), Ida S. and Sarah A. Mr. Scott moved to Princeton, Ill., in 1855, and in 1869 emigrated to Poweshiek County, Iowa, settling on his farm of 300 acres of land. His wife's death occurred on August 11, 1880. She was an earnest member of the Baptist Church at the time of her demise. Mr. Scott then lived with his youngest daughter until his death, April 1, 1888. S. V. Scott was reared in New Brunswick, and in 1855 emigrated to Illinois and settled near Princeton, in Bureau County, but moved in 1867 to Iowa, and settled on a farm in Poweshiek County, remaining here until 1879, since which time he has been a resident of Adams County, Neb. His farm is one of the best in the county, and is well adapted to stock raising, which industry receives considerable attention at Mr. Scott's hands. He is in every sense of the word a self-made man, and the valuable property of which he is now the owner has been

acquired by hard and persistent endeavor. He is liberal in the support of worthy causes, is a Republican in his political views and belongs to the Masonic Order, Lodge No. 50. He is unmarried.

Henry Shedd, furniture dealer of Hastings, Neb., is one of Adams County's oldest residents, having come here in 1872. He was born in Oneida County, N. Y., October 13, 1813, being a son of Dyer and Lydia (Pratt) Shedd, who were born in Connecticut and died in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1848 and 1846, respectively. Henry Shedd attended the schools of his native county, and while still a youth began life for himself, and the first year clerked in a store in Utica. After spending some time learning the carpenter's trade he became a contractor and builder, and this occupation he followed for three or four years. In 1862, full of zeal and enthusiasm for the cause of the Union, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Seventeenth New York Volunteer Infantry, and went out as second lieutenant, and a few months later was detailed from his regiment for special service, and at the end of two years was honorably discharged. In 1865 he came to Illinois and made a location in Woodford County, where he was engaged in farming, merchandising and carpentering until 1872, at which time he came to Adams County, Neb., and homesteaded about four miles northeast of Juniata. In 1875 he came to Hastings, and that year and 1876 were devoted to the grain business, but in 1877 he formed a partnership in the sale of agricultural implements with Charles L. Stone, the firm name being Shedd & Stone, which connection lasted until 1884, at which time Mr. Shedd turned his attention to the stock business. From April 2, 1886, to September, 1889, he was assistant cashier of the Adams County Bank, and in October of the latter year he opened a furniture establishment in Hastings, and has a wholesale and retail stock, very complete and of the best quality. He is a Prohibitionist, and on that ticket was elected, in 1885, to the position of mayor of Hastings. He was married in 1866 to Miss Jennie Sandford, who was born in 1838, and their union has been blessed in the birth of two daughters: Addie E. and Fannie. The mother of these children died on June 23, 1875, and Mr.

Shedd espoused his present wife in October, 1887. She was a Mrs. Rose E. Fisher, born in Iowa in 1856, and is an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church.

John D. Shellhamer, farmer and stock raiser, Holstein, Neb. The success which seems to attend Mr. Shellhamer's efforts in the farming and stock raising industry is well merited, for no one is more thoroughly interested in this calling or gives it greater attention. He was originally from Columbia County, Pa., where his birth occurred on October 30, 1855, and is the son of E. C. and Eliza (Heavner) Shellhamer, natives of Pennsylvania, and both born and reared in Columbia County. Mr. Shellhamer was a contractor on public works in Pennsylvania for a number of years, and being of a roving disposition moved to Wisconsin about 1859. He lived there for two years, then moved to Virginia and resided in Fairfax for four years, after which he returned to Wisconsin, Fond du Lac County. Two years later he sold out and moved to Iowa, resided in Howard and Mitchell Counties for about ten years; and then again sold out, and in 1873 emigrated to Nebraska. He followed farming in Adams County for some time, and then moved to Iowa, where he resided for four years. He is now residing in Arkansas. He was magistrate while in Adams County, Neb. John D. Shellhamer grew to manhood in Iowa, and came with his parents to Nebraska in 1873. He located on his present property in 1874, and now has 160 acres of land all in a good state of cultivation. Like the majority of the farmers of Adams County, he has good substantial buildings; has set out a small orchard, etc.; has an acre of timber, and is in comfortable circumstances. By his marriage, which occurred in Kearney County, Neb., November 15, 1885, to Miss Luella Wood, a native of Morgan County, Ohio, there have been born two children: Ross and Stella. Mrs. Shellhamer was the daughter of Abram Wood, of Kearney County, and previous to her marriage was a successful teacher in Kearney and Adams Counties for a number of years. Her home is decorated with numerous evidences of an artist's handiwork, and the massive organ responds to her skillful touch. She is a member of the Christian Church, and an active Sunday-school worker.

John Shierman, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. There are many citizens of foreign birth represented within the pages of this volume, and among those deserving of mention is John Shierman, who was born in Wittenberg, Germany, in 1836, and who was the third child and only son in a family of five children born to Andrew and Mary A. Shierman, both of whom are now deceased, the mother dying in 1869 and the father in 1872, and both being members of the Catholic Church. The father was a prominent agriculturist. Their children were named as follows: Mary J., Crescith, John, Maggie and Catherine. John Shierman's time was divided in early youth between assisting on the farm and in attending the schools of his native country. Later he learned the carpenter trade, and in 1854 emigrated to the United States, settled in Pennsylvania, and there remained eighteen months. He then moved to Illinois, settling in Douglas County, where he worked in a grist-mill and saw-mill for a few years. He was married May 17, 1859, to Miss Maggie Malone, and to them was born one son, William A. Mrs. Shierman died April 8, 1860. William A. died October 8, 1860. After losing his family Mr. Shierman was engaged in farming until 1861, when he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-first Illinois, Grant's regiment, and participated in the battles of Fredericktown, Perryville, Winchester, Tullahoma, Tyron Gap, Pine Mountain, Chattanooga, Stone River, Chickamauga, and was with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea. He was also at Corinth, and participated in a great many skirmishes. He was discharged in 1864, and returned to Illinois, where he engaged in carpenter work. He was married, in 1865, to Miss Jennie R. Low, daughter of Rev. Samuel and Catherine Low, the father a native of Maine and the mother of New York State. The former died in 1840, and the latter in 1861. Mrs. Shierman was born in Indiana in 1837, and was the youngest of the following children: Samuel, Mary, Catherine, Ann, William, Henry, Adelia and Jennie. To Mr. and Mrs. Shierman were born four children: Elton E., John W., Katie O. and Nettie A. John Shierman emigrated to Nebraska in March, 1873, and settled in Hastings, where thirty days after arriving he experienced the terrible blizzard mentioned

elsewhere. In 1874 he was also in the grasshopper scourge. After following the carpenter trade until 1882 he located on his present farm. He took a homestead in Little Blue Township in 1873, and in 1882 he traded this for the 160 acres where he now lives. He has been successful, and now has a comfortable home, all the result of honest endeavor. In his political views he is a Republican, but in local politics he votes for principle and not for party.

David Shook, farmer and carpenter, Holstein, Neb. Mr. Shook is a native of Indiana, born in Dearborn County on November 11, 1820, and is the son of John and Sarah (Harper) Shook, both natives of Maryland. Mr. Shook was a contractor and builder, and moved from his native State to Indiana at an early day, being one of the earliest settlers of Dearborn County. He served in some of the Indian wars in Indiana, and afterward moved to Ripley County, where he cultivated the soil until his death, which occurred in 1841. His wife died in August, 1860. David Shook was early taught the duties of farm life in Ripley County, Ind., and was married there March 1, 1840, to Miss Indiana Deal, a native of the Keystone State. After farming there for several years Mr. Shook moved to Iowa (1855), located in Fayette County, and there continued his agricultural interests, but in connection followed contracting and building, which trade he had learned in Indiana. In 1870 he moved to Guthrie County of that State, resided there until 1884, when he moved to Nebraska and located on his present property on election day of that year. He has improved his property; has 160 acres under cultivation and fenced; has a good house, substantial outbuildings, good orchard; and, in fact, is a first class farmer. In connection with his farming interests he has also carried on the carpenter trade to some extent. He lost his first wife in Fayette County, Iowa, on November 18, 1859, ten children having been born to this union, seven boys and three girls: Jacob D., Charles W., William, Ezra, Grandville L., Albert W., James P., Mary J., Louisa A. and Isabell. Mr. Shook's second marriage occurred in Fayette County, Iowa, on July 12, 1860, to Miss Eliza Moffitt, a native of Ohio, born March 19, 1829, in Coshocton County, and the daughter of James and Mary Mof-

fitt. To this union were given three children, all born in Fayette, Iowa: Robert A., Josephine and David M. Mr. and Mrs. Shook and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are much respected citizens.

William J. Shriver is one of the intelligent and enterprising agriculturists and stockmen of Adams County, Neb., and has been very successful in the conduct of his farm, which comprises 160 acres in Denver Township. His native birthplace is Noble County, Ohio, where he was born in 1848, the eldest child of Michel and Mary A. (Hughes) Shriver, and grandson of Amos and Caroline Hughes. Michel Shriver was born in Pennsylvania in 1820, but removed to Ohio in early life and settled in Noble County, where he married and reared a family of six children, four sons and two daughters: William J., John S., Michel E., Mary E., Amos E. and Lucy E. Mr. Shriver removed to Iowa County, Iowa, in 1867, and is still making his home there, being a Democrat in politics. William J. Shriver was married in the State of Iowa in 1873 to Miss Harriet J. Misel, a daughter of David and Martha (Trimble) Misel, all natives of the "Buckeye State." David Misel was born in 1823, his wife in 1827, and the latter's death occurred in August, 1889. Mr. Shriver and his wife have three children: David Russell, Amos Emanuel and John Wesley. In 1883 he removed with his family to Adams County, Neb., and settled on his present farm, which is situated about three miles from Hastings, it being well improved with good buildings, orchards, etc., and well stocked, his cattle being of the Short-horn breed. He has always supported worthy and feasible enterprises, and being enterprising and industrious, he is an acquisition to the community in which he resides. He is a member of his local school board, is a Democrat in his political views, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Joseph R. Sims is one of the leading contractors and builders of Hastings, Neb., and in speaking of his life occupation, perhaps the greatest compliment that could be paid him would be to point to the many fine edifices which he has erected. His parents, William and Louisa (Stokes) Sims, were born in Eng-

land, but crossed the ocean to seek a home in the New World in 1848, settling in Scranton, Pa., where they were accidentally killed on July 3, 1861, before their plans for the future had fully matured. Joseph R. Sims received the advantages of the common public schools in his youth, and although he was anxious to join the Union army during the late Rebellion, his extreme youth prevented the carrying out of his wishes until 1864, when he enlisted in Company C, Two Hundred and Third Pennsylvania Volunteers, and he did faithful service until June 26, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. Returning from the War, he located in Scranton, Pa., where he entered upon a three years' apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, and after completing his term of service he worked at his trade in the Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys until 1872, when he removed to Chicago, and here and at Grand Rapids, Mich., he continued to work at his trade for two years. The four following years were spent in his native State, and after a short residence in Iowa, he came to Hastings, Neb., in the summer of 1878, and since has been connected with the building interests of the city. Some of the finest residences and public buildings of the place were erected by him, and he is, all will acknowledge, an adept at his trade. He has ever been an ardent Republican, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is the present recorder of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, of which he is a member.

A. P. and Will A. Slack are prosperous general merchants of Juniata, Neb., and each of the members of this firm is an honored representative of the old and respected family whose name they bear. Their parents, A. W. and Nancy (Wheelock) Slack, were natives of New York, and the father was for a long time a carriage maker of Felts Mills, but is now retired. A. P. and W. A. Slack were born in Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1858 and 1861, and were attendants at the common schools until thirteen and fourteen years of age, respectively. The former after starting out in life for himself began clerking, which occupation he followed seven years, but in 1880 he came west, imbued with the idea that better opportunities were offered here for a young man of push and enterprise, and subsequent events have

proved that his suppositions were correct. After following the plow in Hall County for one and a half years he came to Juniata, and the same length of time was spent in clerking for Mr. Bun, at the expiration of which time he entered the Bank of Juniata, and for five years acted as clerk, bookkeeper and teller. In February, 1888, he opened a grocery store, which he conducted until October, 1889, then was joined by his brother, W. A. Slack, and J. R. Van Houten, and they put in a stock of general merchandise valued at \$7,000. Although this firm have only been in business a short time they have succeeded in establishing a safe and remunerative trade, and their close attention to business, combined with a large and well selected stock of goods of the most reputable manufactures, together with reasonable prices at which they are disposing of them, have contributed largely to their success. In 1884 A. P. Slack purchased property in Juniata, and on one of his lots built him a good residence. He also owns a good farm in Dakota. He was married, in 1879, to Miss Ida Rhiner, a native of New York, and a daughter of C. B. Rhiner, who is at present in business in Juniata. Two children have been born to Mr. Slack's marriage: Albert and Walter. Both Mr. Slack and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and politically he is a Republican, and in 1888 was appointed notary public. Will A. Slack began his career as a farm hand, but later followed the occupation of pedagogue until he attained his majority. Shortly after his marriage he removed from his native State to Dakota, where he homesteaded 320 acres, but after proving up on his claim he came to Adams County, Neb., in 1885, and for some time was bookkeeper for W. D. Sewell, and afterward for D. H. Freeman. In 1887 he became associated with Mr. Freeman in business, the firm taking the name of D. H. Freeman & Co., but at the end of about two years, in October, 1889, he joined his brother in the above named store, under the firm name of A. P. Slack & Co., and as stated above they have become well known in business circles. Mr. Slack's wife, formerly Miss Hattie E. Smith, was born in York State, but her parents are now residing in South Dakota. Mr. Slack and his wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal

Church since they were children, and he, as well as his brother, is an active worker in the Sunday-school. He and wife have two sons and two daughters: Ina, Ethel, Floyd and Leon. He also owns considerable town property and 160 acres of land three miles from Juniata, all of which is under cultivation. He is a Prohibitionist, and socially is a member of Juniata Lodge No. 79, I. O. O. F., of which he is secretary.

George W. Slay is a farmer and stock raiser of Cottonwood Township, Adams County, Neb., and his well established characteristics of energy, perseverance and industry have brought him safe returns. He was born at McConnellsville, Ohio, November 26, 1854, and is a son of Henry and Catherine (Davis) Slay, who were also born in the "Buckeye State." The Slays are of German origin, and the grandfather, John Slay, was born in Pennsylvania and settled in Ohio at a very early period, his ancestors having come to this country, it is supposed, since the Revolutionary War. Catherine Davis was a daughter of George Davis, a native of Maryland, who settled in Ohio, at McConnellsville, during the early history of that region. George W. Slay was one of a family of eleven children, of whom five sons and two daughters are now living, and grew to manhood in the State of his birth. After reaching his nineteenth year he started out in life for himself, and after spending one year at farming in Grundy County, Mo., he went to Michigan and was employed in the lumber regions of that State for one year. The following six months were spent at general labor in West Virginia, after which he went to Pennsylvania, thence six months later to Indiana, and after spending a year here he went to Illinois, and spent a year there also. After a residence of six months in Wisconsin he returned to the lumber regions of Michigan, and eighteen months later went on a visit to his old home. He worked for three years at railroading in Perry County, after which he farmed until 1883, in Grundy County, Mo., and in September of that year came to Nebraska and homesteaded his present property, which comprises 160 acres of fine farming land, nicely improved with good buildings, orchards, etc. While a resident of Grundy County, Mo., he was married

to Miss Martha Shilling, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Reuben and Hannah (Hopper) Shilling, natives of Wisconsin, and descendants of an old Scotch family. Mr. and Mrs. Slay have one son and two daughters: Herman A., Ettie Myrtle and Gracie May. The family worship in the Methodist Church, and Mr. Slay has held several local offices.

Edwin Smith, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Mr. Smith owes his nativity to the Empire State, where his birth occurred in 1842, and is the second of five children, three sons and two daughters, born to the union of John and Keziah (Hallock) Smith, natives also of the State of New York. The father is a farmer, and has followed this occupation successfully all his life. He was born in 1820, and is now a resident of his native State. He is Democratic in his political principles, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife was also a member. She was the daughter of Zebulou Hallock, of York State, and died in 1885. Their children were named as follows: Cyrus B., Edwin, Joseph P., Loduska M. and Ida B. Edwin Smith's school days were spent in New York State, and he was reared in Delaware County, although his native county was Grene. He started out for himself in 1863, by enlisting in Company G, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, he having moved to that State and settled in Marshall County in that year, and from that time he acted as scout and guard, taking prisoners back and forwards from different places. He was discharged on October 20, 1864, after which he returned to Illinois, and there tilled the soil until 1876. He then emigrated to Adams County, Neb., bought eighty acres of land, which he now has well improved and which is better stocked than almost any other farm in this part of the country. He is enterprising, industrious, and cannot fail to be successful in whatever he undertakes. He was married, in 1882, to Isabelle Campbell, *nee* Herlinger, who had one child, Ira, the result of a former union. Mr. Smith is interested in all enterprises for the good of the county, is school treasurer in his district, a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in his political views is Democratic. He and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr.

Smith likes the State, and expects to make it his permanent home.

Judge B. F. Smith, attorney at law, a member of the firm of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth, of Hastings, Neb., was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in June, 1847, being the seventh in a family of eight children of Nathaniel and Mary (Cope) Smith, who were of German descent; the father was a Lutheran minister. Both his parents died in 1851. B. F. Smith soon after removed with his grandparents to Steuben County, Ind., and at an early age entered a printing office, and also learned the manufacturing of candy, and at the age of sixteen, in 1863, enlisted in Company H, First Michigan Sharpshooters, being attached to the Ninth Army Corps, in the campaign of 1864, and participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Bethel Church, Ox Ford, North Anne, Cold Harbor and Petersburg, in which last engagement he received a wound in the right arm from the bursting of a shell, which caused the amputation of the arm at the elbow. He was discharged from the service in December, 1864, and returned to his home in Steuben County, Ind., and soon after engaged in running as express messenger between Cincinnati and St. Louis. In 1866, when the cholera was raging in St. Louis, he returned to Steuben County, Ind., and entered the graded school of Angola, remaining there teaching school and studying law until 1871, when he was admitted, and in April of 1872, he removed to Juniata, Neb., taking up a homestead four miles northeast of that place in Highland Township. He at once entered upon a career of distinction and success, and owing to his strong, good sense and knowledge of legal lore, he soon commanded a large patronage. He has made many improvements on his farm, which is a valuable piece of land, and after proving his title, in 1874, he moved to Juniata, where he bought property and erected a dwelling, but in 1882 caused his present commodious residence to be built. He has always been a politician, and in 1873 his ability was recognized by the people, and he was elected probate judge, which office he held eight years. He has always been a staunch supporter of Republican principles and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. In 1876 he formed a law partnership with

James Laird, which continued until 1883, when the latter's interest was purchased by Gen. Dilworth, and the next year W. A. Dilworth was admitted and the present firm formed. Judge Smith is a member of the I. O. O. F., Juniata Lodge No. 79, and is a member of Hastings Encampment No. 50, and of Geary Post No. 81, G. A. R. Miss Sarah Biggsbee, of Indiana, became his wife in 1868, and to them have been born the following family: Jesse and Eugene are deceased, and Benjamin F., Philip H. and Harrison Morton are living.

J. W. Smith, M. D., is well known to the many readers of this volume, and owes his nativity to Bakewell, England, where his birth occurred in 1852, he being the elder of two children born to Thomas and Mary Smith, the former of whom was a Wesleyan Methodist minister, and expounded the doctrines of his denomination for thirty-three years, dying in 1874. His wife's death occurred in 1880. Dr. J. W. Smith often accompanied his father to the different parishes in which he preached, and thus acquired much valuable information, which stood him in good stead in later years. His means of learning was not confined to this alone, however, for he attended the schools of Bakewell, excellent ones of their kind, and subsequently finished his education by graduating from the medical and theological departments of Wesley College, Sheffield. In 1873-74 he preached the Gospel in England, but in 1875 he came to the United States, and located at Franklin, N. Y., where he continued his work for the Master for two years, and was then at Hampden, of the same State, three years. At the expiration of this time he came to Nebraska, and for two years acted as principal of the schools of Orleans, being also pastor of a church there, after which he was transferred to Juniata, making this the scene of his ministerial labors for two years. Since that time he has practiced the profession of medicine in Adams County, his labors in this capacity being well prospered, and, besides, his own personal characteristics have drawn around him a wide spread popularity. Dr. Smith was married in New York, in 1876, to Miss Mary K. Muhlachm, a native of Hampden, N. Y., and a graduate of the Albany Normal College, a refined and intellectual lady. Her grandfather was

one of the earliest settlers in Delaware County, and her relatives are respected and prosperous citizens of that region. Dr. and Mrs. Smith have had five children: E. Russell (who died at the age of two years), Floyd, Edith Pearl, Robert Arthur (died in infancy), and Walter J.

H. N. Spencer, farmer and stock raiser, Ne-gunda, Neb. This successful and enterprising citizen, like the majority of people who claim the Buckeye State as their birth place, is enterprising, intelligent and thrifty. His birth occurred in Geauga County, in 1825, and he was the only child born to his parents, Orrin and Mehitabel (Hall) Spencer, natives of Connecticut. The father was a farmer by occupation, and when fifteen years of age he moved with his parents to Geauga County, Ohio, they being among the first white settlers to locate in Claridon Township. He was married in Ohio in 1821, and afterwards tilled the soil. His death occurred in Ohio in 1874, and his wife's death occurred previous to this, in 1866. He was quite a prominent man and served the county in many positions of trust. He was justice and director of the infirmary. Grandfather Spencer was in the War of 1812, and went to Cleveland at the time of Hull's surrender. H. N. Spencer began farming at an early age, and secured a fair education in both the subscription and free schools of Geauga County. He was married in that county, in 1846, to Miss Rosett Utley, a native of Geauga County, and the daughter of Hamilton and Polly (Squires) Utley, natives of Massachusetts. Her father was a farmer and about 1816 moved to Geauga County, Ohio, where he remained during life. He was in the factory business for many years in Massachusetts. He engaged in teaching in Ohio, and followed this profession with success for about twenty years. He was justice of the peace for many years. His wife died in May, 1853, and he in December of the same year. After his marriage Mr. Spencer settled in Ohio, and remained there until the fall of 1880, when he moved to Adams County, Neb. In 1862 he enlisted for three years in Company F, Seventh Ohio Infantry, and was commissioned second lieutenant, and assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He was in several battles, among them being Chan-

cellorsville and Gettysburg. In 1863 he was taken sick at Gettysburg, and during his sickness his wife made him a visit. In consequence of the battle of Chickamauga, Mr. Spencer was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, and was in the battle of Lookout Mountain and Ringgold, where he received a gun-shot wound in the hip. He received a furlough and was at home for sixty days, and he now has the bullet. After returning he was in the battle of Resaca and Dallas, where he received a shell wound which put out one eye, and this ended his field service with the Seventh. He remained at Nashville, Tenn., for some time, and was mustered out at Cleveland, Ohio, in July, 1864. In August of the same year he received an appointment and recruited Company K, One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Ohio Infantry, and was appointed captain. He was assigned to the defense of the Nashville Railroad. He was in Murfreesboro, and was besieged by Gen. Forrest, and was in many skirmishes. His regiment was later assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps, and he joined in February. He was at Fort Fisher, was at Wilmington, Goldsboro, and was in the battle of Town Creek. Mr. Spencer was honorably discharged in 1865, at Greensboro, N. C., after which he returned immediately to Geauga County, Ohio, but later went to North Carolina, where he remained six months. Subsequently he returned to Ohio and followed farming there until 1881, when, as before stated, he moved to Adams County, Neb. He purchased a prairie tract of land of 400 acres, and on this he has made many improvements. He has a fine stock ranch, well watered and with plenty of shade, and he raises considerable stock. He is not active in politics, and votes with the Republican party. He held the position of treasurer of Geauga County from 1858 to 1862, and was one of the prominent men of the same, taking quite an active part in politics. He is a member of C. A. Arthur Post No. 242, G. A. R., at Lawrence, Neb. Socially he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., is a Chapter member, and is also a member of the Council. He has been a Knight Templar for thirty-five years, and has been High Priest and served in other capacities. To this union have been born two children: Flora S.

(now Mrs. Hawley, of Eureka Springs, Ark.), and Lawrence U., residing on the farm. Mrs. Hawley is a music teacher and has a store in Eureka Springs.

John H. Spicer, clerk of the district court of Adams County, Neb., is a native of La Salle County Ill., born September 26, 1857, and is the eldest of five children of E. H. and Eunice (Wood) Spicer, who were born in Pennsylvania, in 1828 and 1830, respectively, and are residing in La Salle County, Ill., where they settled in the year of 1854. Roger Spicer, the paternal grandfather, was born in the "Nutmeg State" in 1796, and died in New York in 1884. John H. Spicer commenced life as a farmer's boy, but received fair advantages for acquiring an education in the schools of La Salle County. In 1876 he concluded to take Horace Greeley's advice and "go West," not particularly to grow up with the country, but to obtain the "almighty dollar," and for this purpose settled on a farm in Adams County, Neb., which he continued to till successfully until 1888. In the fall of 1887, he was elected clerk of the district court, and his present term will expire in 1892. He has always been an earnest supporter of Republican principles. In the year of 1883 he was united in marriage to Miss A. B. Scott, a native of Cedar County, Iowa, born in 1857, and by her has a family of three children, one son and two daughters—Erwin H., Minnie R. and Erma E.

George W. Spicknall, Hastings, Neb. Prominent among the very early settlers of Adams County stands the name of Mr. Spicknall, who settled here on August 10, 1870, on Section 30, Township 5, Range 11, now Silver Lake Township, and at a time when there were but nine persons in the county. He was born in Dearborn County, Ind., on March 19, 1839, and is the son of Leonard and Emily (Horum) Spicknall, the latter of whom was born in Vermont, and died in Indiana in 1871, at the age of sixty-five years. The father was born in Maryland, and died in Indiana in 1850. They were early settlers of Dearborn County, Ind. George W. Spicknall was the eighth of thirteen children, six of whom are now living. He assisted his father on the farm in his boyhood days, and in August, 1861, he donned his suit of blue, and enlisted in Company K, Twen-

ty-sixth Indiana Infantry, serving nineteen months in that regiment. He was discharged for disability in the month of March, 1863. Recovering from his disability, he again re-enlisted in Company D, Seventh Indiana Cavalry, serving with said regiment until February, 1866, when he was discharged as sergeant-major. He then returned home and engaged in farming in Indiana until 1870, when he emigrated to Adams County, Neb., and here carried on farming until 1883. In politics Mr. Spicknall is a Republican, and in the fall of the last mentioned year he was elected county clerk of Adams County, being re-elected in the fall of 1885. He and M. N. Kress, of Ayr, are the only two men here now who were here in 1870. In 1886 Mr. Spicknall was united in marriage to Miss Susan M. Angevine, who was born in Dearborn County, Ind., in 1845. He has made his own way in life and has been successful in all his business ventures, and is now able to enjoy the fruits of his industry. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of Mount Nebo Commandery No. 11, K. T., also a member of the Hastings Lodge of K. P.

J. Turner Steele, M. D., was born in Boston, Mass., November 10, 1857, being one of six children born to Joseph H. and Mary (Powers) Steele; the former a native of England, born in 1817, and now resides in Hastings, Neb. He came to the United States at the age of sixteen, and in 1859 removed with his family to Iowa, settling at Manchester, where the mother, who was born in Ireland in 1818 and came to America at the age of twenty, died in 1867. In the high school of Manchester the early scholastic advantages of Joseph Steele were enjoyed, and later he became a student of the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City. His medical studies commenced in the office of Dr. B. H. Reynolds, of Manchester, and were continued there until 1879, when he went to Iowa City and completed his reading in the office of O. T. Gillett, secretary of the State University, and for a short period he was engaged in the practice of medicine. Dr. Steele graduated from the State University of Iowa, after which he entered Rush Medical College, and graduated from there February 19, 1884, and the following April came to Hastings,

which place has since been his home. On December 28, 1887, he married Louella, daughter of S. C. and Harriett Hughes, of Lexington, Ky., and to them was born one child, J. Hughes. Born in a city noted for the culture and intelligence of its inhabitants, he is one of the true type of New Englanders, and is a careful, consistent and thoroughly educated physician, and enjoys a high reputation not only in his adopted city, but throughout the State. The Doctor is one of the few professional men that have been successful in financial affairs, and ranks among the first men in the city in business circles. By the purchase and sale of the Taylor farm adjoining the city limits, he inaugurated the memorable boom of 1887, and was one of the heaviest operators in real estate, of which he is still a liberal holder. He is public spirited and enterprising, and always to be relied upon in carrying forward any public or benevolent enterprise. He still enjoys a lucrative business, which is principally confined to a city and consultation practice. Like most men of spirit, the Doctor is a great admirer of good horses, and in the fall of 1887 established the stock farm known as Wile-Wood, situated two miles east and two south of Hastings. It is as picturesque and romantic a spot as the name it bears suggests, and with its towering bluffs, winding streams, beautiful meadows and abundant groves of wile wood it is destined to become one of the most attractive resorts for lovers of fine horses. Of those horses now on the farm, Revenue heads the list. He is a beautiful mahogany bay, full sixteen hands high, with slight star in forehead; he was purchased of Col. Bruce, at Lexington, Ky.; he is a son of the great sire and race horse, Renown, first dam by imported Bonnie Scotland. He is without question the finest thoroughbred stallion in the State, and with the many fine brood mares and youngsters will undoubtedly make Wile-Wood respected. Dr. Steele is a Republican, his first presidential vote being cast for James A. Garfield. He is genial, well read, and popular with all classes.

David V. Stephens, the efficient postmaster of Juniata, Neb., was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1844, being the eldest of the children born to James H. and Mary L. (Cleveland) Stephens, who were born

in Ohio and Virginia, respectively, the former a worthy tiller of the soil. In 1851 the family moved to Iowa, and in 1860 returned east, as far as Indiana, in which State the mother died. The father continued to make his home here until 1882, when he removed to Adams County, Neb., and settled on an exceptionally fine farm of forty acres, one and a half miles east of Juniata. His present wife, whom he married in 1885, was a Mrs. Carrie Von Riper, a native of New Jersey. David V. Stephens was reared on farms in Iowa and Indiana, and was an attendant of the common schools until the opening of the Civil War, when he dropped all pursuits to take up arms for his country. In 1863 he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Eighteenth Indiana Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, under Gen. Burnside, and was in the battles of Cumberland Gap, Walker's Ford, Monroe Gap, after which he went to Knoxville, which place he reached shortly after the siege. From there he went to West Virginia, thence to Indianapolis, where he was honorably discharged and returned home. He soon after entered the high school at Wabash, Ind., and this institution he attended during the summers of 1865-66, being engaged in teaching during the winter months. December 24, 1867, he was married to Miss Nancy A. Thompson, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of the Rev. David Thompson, who was an old settler of Wabash County, and treasurer of the same two terms. After his marriage Mr. Stephens bought a farm of fifty-six acres, and continued to reside on and till this farm for three years, after which he moved to Wabash, and clerked in the store of D. Thompson, a grocer, then for the general merchants, Thompson & Snavelly, remaining in the town until 1878, when he concluded to seek Dame Fortune a little farther west, and accordingly settled in Greeley, Colo., being engaged in tilling a farm of forty acres near the town. He continued to reside here three years, making many improvements in the meantime, but in 1881 sold his farm and came to Adams County, Neb., and purchased a farm of eighty acres, three miles southeast of Juniata, which he sold in 1884, and moved to Hastings. After remaining here one winter he made a trip through the Southern States, with a view to locat-

ing, but returned to Adams County, well contented to settle down here. After farming for a short time he clerked for E. F. Gettle for over two years, and on December 7, 1889, was appointed postmaster of the town, and is now discharging the duties of this position. He has always been quite an active politician, a Republican by precept and example, and has held a number of minor offices in Adams County. He is actively engaged in church work, as is his wife, who is also a charter member of the W. C. T. U. Both are members of the Congregational Church, and are the parents of four children: Frank M. (who is deputy postmaster), Clement V., Eva May (who died at the age of twenty months), and an infant daughter, Nellie.

William Stewart, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. Perhaps the most exciting and thrilling period of Mr. Stewart's life was during his career as a soldier, and the brief account here given of his service in the army will convey something of an idea of what was undergone by him. He is a native of Shelby County, Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1842, being the fourth in a family of eleven children born to the union of Preston B. and Patsey (Ashpaugh) Stewart. The father was born in Kentucky in 1813, was married in his native State, and in 1832 moved to Ohio, becoming one of the earliest settlers of Shelby County. He was a blacksmith by trade, and during his early settlement in that county, did considerable work for the Indians. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity, Stoke Lodge No. 43, was Senior Warden of the same, and was deeply interested in all matters relating to his lodge, having aided in organizing several different ones. He died in Ohio in 1886. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also his wife, who is living at the present day. She resides in Ohio, is seventy-four years of age, and is still quite active. She was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Ashpaugh, the latter of whom lived to be one hundred and one years of age, her birth occurring in 1749, and her death in 1850. Our subject's paternal grandfather lived to be eighty-five years of age. The children born to Preston B. Stewart and wife are named as follows: Sarah, Joseph, Elizabeth, William, Maria, Williby, Martha A., Rhoda, Charles,

Perry and Harvey. William Stewart passed his younger days in his native State, and at the breaking out of the war shouldered his musket, donned his suit of blue and enlisted in Company E, Forty-fifth Ohio Infantry, under Maj.-Gen. Stanley. He participated in twenty-seven general engagements, the principal ones being Resaca, Ga.; Altoona Pass, Chattahoochie River, Atlanta, Ga.; Jonesboro, N. C.; siege of Rocksville, Franklin, Tenn.; Chattanooga, and was in a great many skirmishes. He was a private, and during his entire time of enlistment was never sick a day. He assisted in the capture of Morgan in Ohio, and was one of the mounted scouts of the undertaking. He was captured in Tennessee in 1863, was confined in Libby prison six months, and experienced all the horrors of that place. When first taken he weighed 185 pounds, and when exchanged in the spring of 1864 his weight was 100 pounds. After this he was unfit for service for five months, but at the end of that period he returned to the same company in which he enlisted, and served until the close of the war. He was one of three who came out of 400 taken in his regiment. After his discharge, in 1865, he returned to Ohio, and was married the same year to Miss Caroline L. Wright, daughter of William and Caroline (Broderick) Wright, natives of Virginia and Vermont, respectively. Her father died in 1862, and her mother in 1847. They were members of the Presbyterian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart were born five children: Robert E., Emma, Walter G., Minnie A. and Edmund H. While living in Ohio Mr. Stewart followed contracting, and in 1877 emigrated to Nebraska and settled at Hastings, Adams County. He moved to his present location in 1879, and has 160 acres of land all well improved and well stocked. He is quite deeply interested in the raising of blooded stock, and has some fine Durham cattle. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, Stokes Lodge No. 40, Port Jefferson, Shelby County, Ohio, and is a member of the Chapter of the same county in Ohio. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. It was all a prairie when Mr. Stewart first settled in Nebraska, and he has experienced some of the severe storms of the State.

Fred H. Stoelting is the proprietor of the Stoelting Hotel at Prosser, Neb., which is one of the best conducted establishments of the kind in this part of the State. Although Mr. Stoelting began life with little means his career has been more than ordinarily successful, and for the past nine years his entire time has been given to his present calling, for which he seems to have a natural aptitude. His birth occurred in Indianapolis, Ind., in the year of 1845, he being the fifth of thirteen children born to Christian and Susanna (Frink) Stoelting, both of whom were born in Germany. They came with their parents to the United States when they were children, and in this country the father learned the cooper's trade, and for some time operated a large shop in Indianapolis. Later he established a shoe store there, which he successfully conducted a number of years, and during this time he became intimately acquainted with President Benjamin Harrison. After selling out his establishment in the city of Indianapolis, he removed with his family to Wisconsin, where he purchased a large farm, on which he began farming on an extensive scale, and at the end of a few years, after he had made many valuable improvements, he sold out for \$16,000, and retired from active business life. He died in March, 1889, having spent a useful and active life, and is still survived by his widow. Fred H. Stoelting resided in Indianapolis until he reached the age of ten years, and up to that time had the advantages of the common schools. He afterward entered the Seminary at Sheboygan, Wis., which institution he attended three years, and after the war had been in progress one year, he, in 1862 enlisted in Company K, Twentieth Wisconsin Infantry, it being called "The Flying Division," and was in thirteen severe battles, among which may be mentioned Prairie Grove, Vicksburg, Yazoo City, Atchafalaya, Fort Morgan, French Creek, Spanish Fort, and was in the entire siege in front of Vicksburg. He was discharged at Galveston, Tex., on July 14, 1865, and returned to Wisconsin. He soon started for Mexico, but as the war was formally closed when he reached New Orleans, he went to Indianapolis, Ind., and became foreman for a large establishment in that city. On August 3, 1868, he was married in Chicago, Ill., to Miss Emma Deats, and soon after

went to Sheboygan, Wis., where he engaged in the saw mill business, and later ran a tug boat on the lake for three years, a part of the time being captain. In 1878 he came to the State of Nebraska, and settled in the southwest part of Adams County, where he took up a soldier's claim, and on this farm made his home for three years, in the meantime making some valuable improvements. He still owns the farm, but at the end of the above mentioned time, he moved to Hastings and established the Pennsylvania House and the Queen City Hotel, which establishments he successfully conducted for seven years. In 1888 he came to Prosser, a portion of the town being laid out on land which he owned, and here he built the Stoelting Hotel, and also a livery stable, both of which he conducts in a highly successful manner. Besides his property here he owns some business lots in Hastings, and may be said to have prospered, notwithstanding the fact that he has met with numerous reverses, among which may be mentioned a fire which swept over his farm when he and his wife were residing thereon, it destroying all his farming implements, and would have undoubtedly consumed himself and wife had they not been residing in a sod house at the time. He has been active in all enterprises which tend to promote the welfare of the county, and was at one time a member of the detective force of the county, and assisted in bringing to justice a number of criminals. He has always been an active politician, and is a member of the Laird Post, G. A. R., and belongs to Hastings Lodge No. 50, I. O. O. F.

Dr. M. W. Stone, the subject of this sketch, was born in Delaware County, Ohio, December 11, 1837. His father's name was Stephen W. Stone, who was a son of William Stone, and he was the youngest son of Thomas Stone, of Maryland, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from that State. His mother's maiden name was Emily Moore. She was the only daughter of Gen. Sidney Moore, of Delaware, Ohio. He attended school at Delaware until he was twelve years old, then his father moved on a farm in the northern part of Delaware County, where he resided until the fall of 1853, when he removed with his father's family to Washington County, Iowa. In the year 1857 he began the study

of medicine with Dr. David A. Kittle, of Washington, Iowa, and continued his studies in medicine while pursuing his studies in the high school in that city, during the year of 1858. In 1859 he returned to Delaware, Ohio, and there attended the Ohio Wesleyan University for one year. He took his first course of lectures in medicine during the year of 1860, and graduated at the Bellevue Medical College, New York City, in February, 1861. After completing his medical course he made quite an extensive tour of the Southern States, going as far south as Texas, and while there came very near being caught by the secession acts of the Southern States. When it became evident that a war was to result from the treasonable acts and rebellious attitude of the South, he at once returned to his home at Washington, Iowa, and on the 15th day of July, 1861, enlisted as a private soldier, in Company H, Seventh Iowa Infantry, and at once marched to the front in the defense of his country. In November of that same year, 1861, he was promoted to the position of assistant surgeon of the regiment. In this capacity he was with the regiment in the battles of Belmont, Fort Henry, Fort Donelson and Shiloh and other minor engagements. In the latter part of this year, 1862, he was transferred to the United States Volunteer Staff, and was on duty at Corinth and St. Louis until May, 1863, when he was again promoted and transferred to the United States Medical Staff, and ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, then in command of the Army of the Cumberland, for duty. He arrived at the headquarters of the Army of the Cumberland about August 15, 1863, and was assigned for duty to the division commanded by Gen. George H. Thomas, and was with them at the memorable battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863, where Gen. Thomas won the title of "The Rock of Chickamauga." On September 21, 1863, he arrived in Chattanooga, and assisted there in organizing the hospital forces of what afterwards became one of the most important military points in the West. He remained at Chattanooga until after the battles of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge, when he accompanied Gen. Thomas' forces on the campaign to Atlanta, and then returned with him to Nashville, and was in the

notable battles of Franklin and Nashville, where Hood's army met so signal a defeat that it was almost annihilation. In February, 1865, he was ordered to Clarksville, Tenn., to take charge of the general hospitals at that place, relieving Dr. Cooper, of the Eighty-third Illinois Infantry. Here he remained until November, 1865, when the medical and hospital depot at that point was discontinued and broken up. Then he reported to the medical director at Nashville, where he remained until September, 1865, when he was granted a six months' leave of absence, with orders from the War Department to report to the commanding officer of the Department of the Platte, at Omaha, Neb., at the expiration of that time. In accordance with those orders, on April 7, 1867, he reported to Gen. C. C. Auger, at Omaha, Neb., and was ordered on to the Western frontiers, with the Fourth United States Infantry. While on the frontiers he also served with the Thirtieth and Twenty-seventh United States Infantry, and the Fifth and Twenty-second United States Cavalry, and traveled over Western Dakota, Yellowstone Park, Montana, Washington Territory, eastern part of Oregon, through Nevada to Reno, and from thence by rail to Sacramento, Cal. From Sacramento he went to Fort Yuma, from there to Tucson, Santa Fe, Fort Hayes, Kan., Denver, Cheyenne and to North Platte, Neb. On returning to North Platte he was assigned to duty with troops stationed there, and along the line of the Union Pacific Railroad. In September, 1869, he was appointed surgeon of the Union Pacific Railroad, and resigned from the regular army in November, 1870. In March, 1871, he removed with his family to Polk County, Neb., where he resided until 1877, when he moved to Saunders County, Neb., where he engaged in the practice of his profession, and soon built up a large and lucrative business. He continued his residence at Wahoo from the date of his removal there to the present time, and his family still resides there. In 1878 he was appointed surgeon-general of the State by Gov. Albinus Nance, with rank of colonel on the Governor's staff. This position he has held continuously since, having been re-appointed by Gov. James W. Dawes, and also by Governor John M. Thayer. On May 1, 1889, Gov. Thayer paid him

the very handsome compliment of appointing him, without solicitation, superintendent of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane, at Hastings, Neb.

Fredrick Stulken, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Another citizen of foreign birth who has become prominently identified with the farming and stock raising interests of the county is Mr. Stulken, who was born in Hohenbaugh, Germany, in 1844. His father, Halard Stulken, was a shoemaker by trade, and married Lena Barker, who bore him seven children. The father died in 1851, and the mother in 1878. Fredrick Stulken passed his boyhood days in his native country, and in 1871 he emigrated to the United States, settling in Ogle County, Ill., where he remained five years. He then moved to Nebraska, settled in Blaine Township, Adams County, and bought 200 acres of land, all of which he has improved. To the original tract he has added enough to make 360 acres, and now has a fine place. He was married in Illinois, in 1876, to Miss Lena Lambus, a native of Germany, and the daughter of Orr Lambus, and the fruits of this union have been seven children: Lena, Henry, Anna, August, Mary, Minnie and Lizzie, all living and at home. Mr. Stulken is Independent in his political views, and always votes for the best man regardless of party. He and wife are members of the German Lutheran Church at Hastings, and he is active in religious and educational matters. He was living in Nebraska during the ravages of the grasshoppers, and being one of the pioneers, has witnessed the many improvements made in the last ten or twelve years.

H. B. Talbert, farmer and stock raiser, Trumbull, Neb. Mr. Talbert owes his nativity to Shelby County, Ind., where his birth occurred in 1842, and was the sixth in a family of ten children, the result of the union of Jesse and Hannah (Engle) Talbert, natives of North Carolina and Ohio, respectively. When a young man the father went to Indiana, was married there, and there followed agricultural pursuits until the latter part of his life, when he engaged in trapping. His death occurred in 1878. He was a strong Abolitionist. His wife died in the same year. H. B. Talbert divided his time in early youth between assisting on the farm and in attending

the subscription schools of Shelby County, Ind. At Indianapolis, in August, 1861, he enlisted for three years in the Third Indiana Battery, and was mustered into service at the above mentioned place. He was assigned to the Western Department and sent to St. Louis under John C. Fremont. During 1864 he was in Mississippi on garrison duty, and later was under A. J. Smith, and joined the Red River expedition. He was honorably discharged at Indianapolis in August, 1864, having remained until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He returned to Shelby County, Ind., and was married in that county, in 1866, to Miss Matilda Rittenhouse, a native of Shelby County, Ind., and a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Young) Rittenhouse, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Indiana. Mr. Rittenhouse was reared in Shelby County, Ind., and followed agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in August, 1846. His wife is still living, and makes her home near our subject. Mr. Talbert introduced tile making in Shelby County, and followed that business for three years. In 1879 he came to Adams County, Neb., homesteaded 160 acres, and first lived in a dugout, to which he added a sod addition. In 1887 he erected a two-story frame house, twenty-eight feet square, and has as fine a residence as any in the county. He takes a great interest in raising stock, and has good barns and outbuildings. In fact, his residence, barns, outbuildings, etc., all indicate the quality of farmer that he is, and the same systematic condition of affairs about his home is apparent in his course as a man. Although not active in politics he is still a Republican in his views. He is a member of the school board of his district, and is a member of W. H. Harrison Post No. 183, G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Talbert are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are the parents of seven children: Minnie F., Edward Morton, Jesse H., Elias F., Cora Alice, Myrtie E. and Charles W.

Charles H. Tanner is a man who began life for himself poor in purse, but who possessed a sufficiently determined spirit to bend the force of circumstances to his will, and is now among the leading members of the Adams County bar. He was born in the "Empire State" August 14, 1853, and

is the elder of two children born to the marriage of William H. Tanner and Nancy F. Jones, also natives of York State, the former's birth occurring in 1822 and the latter's in 1834. The career of Mr. Tanner, after his arrival upon the stage of human action, was rather uneventful, and like that of the majority of boys, was spent in the school room, graduating from the Academic Department of the State Normal School, at Cortland, N. Y. Being ambitious to make a name for himself, and thinking Horace Greeley's advice excellent, he, at the age of twenty-one years, came to Nebraska, and during four years' residence at Lincoln was in the United States land office. In 1875 he began the study of law in the office of Green & Ricketts, and in the year 1877, was admitted to the Lancaster County bar. In the spring of 1879 he settled in Hastings, where he at once entered upon a career of distinction and success, and took an active part in some of the leading criminal cases of the county. He was the leading counsel for the defense in the case of the State vs. Lizzie Aldridge, charged in the indictment with poisoning her husband. The case was tried at the June term of 1889, and resulted in her acquittal. Mr. Tanner has always been a Republican, and in 1886 was elected on that ticket to the office of county attorney of Adams County, for a term of two years. For ten years he has held the position of United States Commissioner. He is a Mason, belonging to Lancaster Lodge No. 54, Lincoln, Neb. His marriage to Miss Flora V. Trippe was celebrated in August, 1874, she being a native of Cortland County, N. Y., but he was called upon to mourn her death September 22, 1884. November 19, of the following year, he espoused Miss Hattie Fay, of Hastings, born in 1864, a daughter of William Fay.

Frank J. Taylor is a farmer and stockman of Adams County, Neb., who has met with good success in following his chosen calling, being now engaged in tilling a farm of 160 acres, which he purchased in 1879. He was born in Lake County, Ind., in 1859, being the third of five children reared by De Witt C. and Louisa (Palmer) Taylor, and a grandson of Adanijah and Lucy Taylor, and James and Almira Palmer. De Witt C. Taylor was born in New York in 1826, and was married in Indiana

about 1850, and died there in 1888. His widow survives him and makes her home in Lake County. Their children are: Helen, Charles A., Frank J., Emma and William. Frank J. Taylor received excellent educational advantages in early life, and besides attending the common schools, was an attendant at Valparaiso. In 1880 he began farming and raising stock on his own responsibility, and the same year was married to Miss Mary Fuller, a daughter of Robert and Delia Fuller, and emigrated to Nebraska, where he had previously purchased his farm. He lived with his wife on his farm until 1883, when, while on a visit to Indiana, his wife was taken ill and died in December, and was buried in the Lowell cemetery. He has made many improvements since locating here, and his farm is considered one of the best tilled and most fertile in the county. In addition to this he has engaged quite extensively in buying and selling stock, and has taught school since coming to the county, being a warm patron of education. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, is a Republican in politics, and in 1890 was elected assessor of Denver Township, and treasurer in 1887. He and wife are the parents of one child, Jesse Clinton.

Thomas A. Templeton, farmer and postmaster, Kenesaw, Neb. Mr. Templeton owes his nativity to Armstrong County, Pa., where his birth occurred on October 6, 1837, and is now following a calling that has for ages received undivided efforts from many worthy individuals, and one that always furnishes sustenance to the ready worker. His father, Thomas Templeton, was a native of Armstrong County, Pa., and was a farmer and miller by occupation. He married Miss Isabella Templeton, a native of Huntingdon County, Pa., and to them were born ten children, of whom Thomas A. was next to the youngest. In his younger days the latter received the advantages of a good education, and when he was twenty years of age he began teaching in the public schools of the State. After that he entered the employ of the American Furnace Company as engineer. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and the first duty of the company was to bury the dead after the second

battle of Bull Run. He served as a member of the color guard, and was honorably discharged in June, 1865. He participated in the battle of Antietam, and was at both engagements at Fredericksburg under Gens. Burnside and Hooker. He was with his company when they made the famous thirty-six mile march at Gettysburg, and after a brief rest of but two hours participated in the terrible assault upon Little Round Top. At the battle of the Wilderness, on the morning of May 12, 1864, he received a gunshot wound in his right limb and had his shoulder blade broken. From these injuries he has never recovered, but has been a cripple ever since. He is one of those old veterans whose maimed bodies and shattered health partly tell the tale of emancipation. After having received his wounds he was taken to the hospital, and when convalescent was appointed a member of the veteran reserve corps, where he remained until discharged. Returning to his home at the close of the war, he engaged at steamboating, and while thus employed his wife, Selicia (Crow) Templeton, whom he had married in 1858, died on board the boat. In 1870 Mr. Templeton turned his attention to merchandising, which he followed at Boydstown, St. Joe and Bryam Center, Pa., until 1880, when he removed to Topeka, Kan., and there resided until 1883, at which time he came to Kenesaw, Neb., purchasing a farm on Section 14. In 1868 he married Miss Annie M. Hutchison, a native of Butler County, Pa., and their union has been blessed by the birth of one son and three daughters. In May, 1889, Mr. Templeton was appointed postmaster at Kenesaw, and at once entered upon the duties of this office. He is a member of Capital Lodge No. 3, A. O. U. W., at Topeka, Kan., and is also a member of the G. A. R. The family worship at the Presbyterian Church, and are universally respected and esteemed.

L. S. Terhune. The career of this gentleman as a farmer and stock raiser has been a successful one, and although he has resided in Nebraska only about four years, he has already made many acquaintances and friends. He was born in Fleming County, Ky., in 1819, being the sixth of twelve children born to Barnett and Ruth (Carter) Terhune, who were born in New Jersey and Virginia, respectively, the

former's birth occurring in 1780. He removed to Kentucky during the early history of that State, where he was married about 1805, and reared his family, whose names are as follows: Albert, Henry, Daniel, Thomas, Mary A., James, Luke S., John and Elisha. Three children died in infancy. James and Luke S. are the only ones now living, the former being a resident of Jasper County, Ill., where he and wife have reared a large family of children. The father and mother of these children died in Indiana in 1849 and 1848, respectively, worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Luke S. Terhune, the immediate subject of this memoir, removed to Brown County, Ohio, from his native State, where he made his home until he was twenty-one years of age, after which he took up his abode in Dearborn County, Ind., and started to farming on his own account. In 1848 he wedded Almeda Cox, a daughter of Elisha and Lucinda Cox, of Dearborn County, Ind., Almeda being the eldest of the following children: Margaret (Mrs. Blasdel), Lafayette, Malinda, John and Elisha. The mother died in 1886, at the age of eighty-six years, but the father still resides in Indiana. Mr. Terhune and his wife have four children: Thomas (who died in 1881), Mary M., Cora B. and Elisha. In 1858 Mr. Terhune removed to Richland County, Ill., and later to Peoria County, but since 1887 has been a resident of Adams County, Neb. The greater part of his life has been devoted to contracting and building, but he is now giving his attention to farming. He is a Republican, a member of the I. O. O. F., and he and family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church. His farm is tilled by his son Elisha, who is married to Susie Furry, a native of Nebraska, by whom he has a daughter, Susan Almeda.

Fred G. Test, M. D., is one of the skillful and experienced physicians of the State of Nebraska, and is the assistant physician of the Asylum for the Incurable Insane at Hastings. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, December 28, 1859, and is a son of Israel F. and Amanda M. (Moyer) Test, who were also born in the Buckeye State, and are there still residing, the former aged about sixty-three years and the latter fifty-seven. After attending the common schools, Dr. Test entered the Ohio Wes-

layan University at Delaware, and upon leaving this institution was engaged in teaching the "young idea" for some time. In 1882 he began his medical studies in the office of Dr. L. A. Merriam, and later attended lectures in the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati, and graduated therefrom in the month of March, 1886. After practicing in his native State for one year he came to Nebraska, in October, 1887, and first settled in St. Paul, Howard County, but in June, 1889, was appointed to his present position by Gov. Thayer, and came to Hastings. He has met with the best success in the practice of his chosen calling, and is well fitted to successfully discharge the duties of the position which he is now filling. He has always supported the principles of the Republican party, and socially is a member of the K. of P., in which he is Past Chancellor, and in the month of October, 1889, he represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State.

Walter Theesen, farmer and stockman, Glenville, Neb. Among those prominently identified with the farming and stock-raising interests of Adams County stands the name of Mr. Theesen, who was born in Germany in 1854, and is the elder of two children, the result of the union of Jacob and Lena (Deaken) Theesen, both natives of Germany. The father was a successful agriculturalist, and followed this occupation during his younger days. He died in his native country in 1860. The two children born to his union were named as follows: Walter and Charley. After his death the mother was married in the old country to Dirk Geerdes, and in 1864 emigrated to the United States, settled in Lee County, Ill., and here Mr. Geerdes followed farming. They became the parents of one child, John. The mother died in 1889 in Nebraska, whither she had moved in 1874. Walter Theesen began life for himself in about 1877, although he had emigrated to Nebraska in 1873 or 1874, and had purchased railroad land in 1872. He was married in 1878 to Miss Maggie Snep, daughter of Henry Snep, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in 1865. Mr. Theesen has 400 acres of land, all well improved, and is one of the wide-awake, energetic farmers of the county. He was elected supervisor in 1887, and has been a member of the school

board in District 71 for five or six years. He is interested in the building up of schools, and all else for the good of the county. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party. He was in the county when the towns were organized. His brother Charley is located in Clay County, and his half brother John, who is young yet, resides in Hanover Township, Adams County.

Abel Spaulding Thompson, postmaster and pharmacist at Holstein, Neb., was born in Delaware County, of the "Buckeye State," March 25, 1832, and is a son of Matthew and Martha (Spaulding) Thompson, the former of whom was born in Cumberland County, Pa., a descendant of those sturdy Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who settled in the fertile valley of the Cumberland near Carlisle, Pa., about the year 1794. Martha Spaulding was born in the "Green Mountain State," a daughter of Abel Spaulding, who served from that State in the Revolutionary War, and also in the War of 1812, afterward settling in Delaware County, Ohio, during the very early history of that State. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson lived to a good old age, and reared a family of seven sons and two daughters to honorable manhood and womanhood, five of the sons serving in the Civil War. Abel S. Thompson, the immediate subject of this sketch, grew to manhood in his native State, and in early life learned the business in which his father was engaged, that of co-operation, but upon the opening of the war he volunteered his services in defense of the old flag, and enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and followed the fortunes of that command through all the vicissitudes and hardships incident to army life until the close of the war. Upon his return home he resumed his former occupation, continuing until 1866, when he spent about six and a half years equally between Illinois and Iowa, after which he came to Nebraska and entered a homestead in Kenesaw Township, which he tilled for six years, leaving it to engage in the drug business at Kenesaw, serving Uncle Sam honorably for seven years as postmaster. He remained here until the spring of 1889, then came to Holstein, and is engaged in business, as above stated, also serving as postmaster here. He was

married in Wyandot County, Ohio (where he had grown to manhood), to Miss Maria James, a native of that county and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Miller) James, natives of Pennsylvania, and early settlers of Wyandot County. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have three daughters: Luella A. (wife of Martin Depriest, of Ogalalla, Neb.), Sylvia E. (wife of Eben L. Dutton, of Cottonwood Township), and Marie Antoinette (wife of Frank H. Cole, a builder by occupation). Mr. Thompson and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a member of Mathias Post No. 155 of the G. A. R., and belongs to the Blue Lodge in the Masonic fraternity.

J. W. Thornton, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. Adams County is indeed fortunate in having among her foreign-born element men whose industry, strict attention to business, economy and perseverance have produced such substantial results in the different affairs with which they have connected themselves. Mr. Thornton belongs to this class, for, originally from England, his location in this county dates from 1884. He was born in 1842, near Lancaster, in Westmoreland, of the union of John and Margaret (Braithwaite) Thornton, the other children besides himself being James, Fannie, Thomas, Alice, Ann (deceased), Robert (deceased), Richard (deceased), and two who died in infancy. The father followed overseeing in the mills of England, and was quite successful in this occupation. He and wife were both members of the Episcopal Church. They moved to the United States in 1856, settled in Buffalo, N. Y., and there remained until 1859, when they moved to Illinois, settling in Grundy County, where the father died in July, 1870. He was a Republican in politics and a public spirited man. The mother is still living and makes her home with a daughter in Michigan. J. W. Thornton was about eleven years of age when he came to this country with his parents. In 1866 he started out for himself as an agriculturist, and has followed this ever since. He was married, in 1870, to Miss Henrietta J. Walker, daughter of Robert Walker, who was one of the early settlers of LaSalle County, Ill., and one of the first judges of election in Grundy County. He died in 1855. Mr. Thornton

settled on a farm five miles west of Morris, Ill., where he was very successful in agricultural pursuits, but in 1884 he concluded to try his luck in Nebraska. He located first in West Blue Township, but in 1886 he came to Blaine Township, purchased 160 acres of land, and here he has since resided, perfectly satisfied with the State. He also owns 160 acres in Verona Township. He is a Republican in politics, was elected treasurer of the town in 1886, and has held this position for two years. He is interested in all things for the good of the county, and is universally respected. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church. While in Grundy County, Ill., Mr. Thornton was town clerk, also school trustee for four years in his township.

P. H. Thrasher, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. What is usually termed genius has little to do with the success of men in general. Keen perception, sound judgment, and a determined will, supported by persevering and continuous effort, are essential elements to success in any calling. Mr. P. H. Thrasher was born in Monroe County, N. Y., on September 8, 1831, and was the youngest of a family of twelve children, the result of the union of John and Roxana (Holdridge) Thrasher, natives of Connecticut. The parents were married in their native State, moved from there to Monroe County, N. Y., and in 1844 to Sullivan County, Ind., where the father cultivated the soil. Two years later he moved to McLean County, Ill., and made that his home until his death, which occurred in 1856. The mother received her final summons in 1850. Their children now living are named as follows: El Nathan (married and lives in Indiana), Gersham (married and lives in Sioux City, Iowa), Thankful E. (now Mrs. Harlan, of Belle Plain, Iowa), and P. H. Thrasher (the subject of this sketch). The latter was reared to farm labor, and received his education in the schools of New York, Indiana and McLean County, Ill. When twenty years of age he was united in marriage, in McLean County, to Miss Mary E. Bessie, a native of Ohio, who bore him two living children: Roxy Ann (now Mrs. Grimes, of Livingston County, Ill.), and Arthur (married and lives in Adams County, Neb.). Mr. Thrasher lost his excellent wife in November, 1858, and in 1860 was

married in La Salle County, Ill., to Miss Emma Elvira Coats, a native of La Salle County, and the daughter of Peter A. and Eliza (Manville) Coats, natives of Connecticut, who at an early day settled in La Salle County, Ill. Mr. Coats with his family took an overland trip to California in 1852, but returned in 1857, and settled in La Salle County, where the father made his home until his death in 1859. His wife died in California in 1855. After marriage Mr. Thrasher settled on a farm in La Salle County, Ill., and there remained until 1883, when he moved to Adams County, Neb., and located on his present place. In 1886 he purchased 160 acres of improved land, and has since been engaged in farming and stock raising. Mr. Thrasher is quite active in politics and votes with the Democratic party. He was elected justice of the peace in 1889, and will be magistrate of the township. To his marriage were born six living children: Ida (now Mrs. Winter, of Garfield, La Salle County, Ill.), Pliny (married and resides in Hall County, Neb.), Adna (now Mrs. Stebbins, of Ayr, Neb.), Nellie (now Mrs. George, of Hall County, Neb.), and Clara and Mortimore, who are still at home. Although not as early in the county as some, Mr. Thrasher has seen many and vast changes since his residence here, and has taken an active interest in all that relates to the good of the country. He was here at the organization of the township.

George W. Tibbets is the senior member of the successful and widely known law firm of Tibbets, Morey & Ferris, of Hastings, Neb. He was born in Allegany County, N. Y., July 25, 1848, and is a son of James and Lucy A. (Raymond) Tibbets, who were also natives of the State of New York, born in 1822 and 1824, respectively, the former's death also occurring there in 1876. George W. Tibbets received his education at Genesee Valley Seminary, N. Y., and in the Iowa State University, but in 1874 he turned his attention to the study of law in the office of Richardson, Flannigan & Smith, at Angelica, N. Y., and after a thorough preparation of three years, he was admitted to practice in all the courts of the State of New York. He then practiced his profession in his native State until 1886, at which time he came to Hastings, and in April of

that year the law firm of Tibbets & Morey was established, Mr. Ferris becoming a member of the firm in January, 1890. Politically, Mr. Tibbets has always been a Democrat, and socially is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was married August 2, 1882, to Miss Mary A. Capron, a native of New York, by whom he has one child, Raymond M. Charles F. Morey, a member of the above named firm, is a native of Wyoming County, N. Y., his birth occurring there on November 17, 1855. His father, Reuben Morey, was a Baptist clergyman, and was also a native of the "Empire State," his birth occurring in 1805. He was a graduate of Brown University, and was ever noted as a man of fine intellect, and in his ability as a minister was far above the average. In 1871 he moved with his family to Wisconsin, where the mother, whose maiden name was Abbie Bogman, died the same year, Mr. Morey passing away from life in the same State in 1880. Charles F. Morey received an unusually good education, and was first a faithful and painstaking student in the Institute of Beaver Dam, Wis., and in 1879 graduated from the Chicago University, his course there being also marked by conscientious application. In 1877 he began his legal studies in connection with his college work, and in 1882 was admitted to the Chicago bar, and, after a residence of four years in that city, he came to Hastings (in 1886), which place has since continued to be his home. His marriage was solemnized in June, 1883, his wife being Miss Anna M. Riordan, a native of Columbus, Ohio, by whom he has one child: Clive R. Mr. Morey is a Republican in his political views. Elmer E. Ferris, the junior member of the firm, was born in Wisconsin in 1862, and, like Mr. Morey, was an attendant of Beaver Dam, Wis., Institute, and the Chicago University, also graduating in the class of 1884. After spending one year in the Chicago Union Law College he, in 1888, came to Hastings and the same year was admitted to the Adams County bar, forming his present partnership in 1890. They have gained an excellent reputation throughout the State, and show ability and sagacity in the management of their cases. Mr. Ferris was married July 6, 1889, to Miss Minnie F. Lum, of Wisconsin.

Henry Trier, like all native Germans, is enterprising, industrious, frugal, and therefore successful. His birth occurred in Hesse Cassel, Erksdorf, December 12, 1856, and he is a son of Valentine and Elizabeth (Linker) Trier, the former of whom was a farmer of good standing in his native land, and died about the year 1870, still survived by his widow. Henry Trier is the fourth of their six children, five sons and one daughter, and when only sixteen years of age he determined to seek his fortune in a new land, and upon reaching the United States he located at Peru, La Salle County, Ill., where he remained about eleven years, a portion of his time being spent in town, and the rest in farming. While there he invested in some farming property in Lyons County, Kan., on Eagle Creek, and after tilling this property two years he sold out and returned to his Illinois home, and a few years later came to his present abode. He settled on his present farm in 1885, but in the latter part of 1889 moved to Holstein, where he is now living. He was married in Peru to Mrs. Elizabeth (Peters) Keutzer, who was born in Peru, and their union has resulted in the birth of one son and three daughters: Emma (Keutzer), Louisa (Keutzer), George and Lydia Trier. Mr. and Mrs. Trier worship in the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Trier is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In addition to conducting his farm he is engaged in conducting a livery stable, which is one of the best in the county, and is proving quite profitable.

John Valentine, dealer in wines and liquors, Hastings, Neb. Ever since his connection with the affairs of Adams County, Mr. Valentine has displayed those sterling characteristics of men of German nativity—industry, perseverance and integrity, that have resulted in awarding him a representative place in matters pertaining to this community. His birth occurred March 22, 1841, and he is the son of Ham and Auka (Hendrichs) Valentine, natives of Germany, the former born in 1811, and the latter in 1809. The father died in his native country in 1884, but the mother came to the United States in 1886, settled in Adams County, Neb., and here died three weeks after her arrival. John Valentine received a thorough education in the schools of Ger-

many, and there followed agricultural pursuits until 1865, when he came to the United States. He settled in Illinois, carried on farming, and was also in the wine and liquor business. He came to Hastings in December, 1880, and has since been engaged in his present business, at which he has been quite successful. He has a brick building, 22x66 feet, at the corner of Hastings Avenue and First Street, which was erected in 1888. Mr. Valentine was married on December 5, 1870, to Miss Jurkea Engelbarths Siebens, who died at Jacksonville, Ill., in 1881, leaving two daughters: Auka and Anna. In 1882 Mr. Valentine was married to Miss Anna Malsteadt, and to this union were born five children: William, John, Martha, Chris. and Mara. In politics Mr. Valentine is a Democrat.

William Van Boening belongs to that sturdy, independent class, the farmers of Nebraska, and none of the residents of Adams County possess more genuine merit or worthy characteristics than he. He was born in Germany in 1838, and was one of nine children born to Simon and Elizabeth Van Boening, the former a prosperous farmer of Germany, who died in his native land in 1862, having been an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church. In 1866 the mother came with the children to the United States and settled in Illinois, where her death occurred the following year. Their children are: Cynthia, Egbert, William, John, Klaas, Emily, Lena, Tilda and Simon. William Van Boening farmed near Emden, Logan County, Ill., for seven years, and was there married, in 1874, to Mary Johnson, a native of Germany. Two years later he removed to Nebraska, and bought land to the amount of 400 acres, all under cultivation, and well improved with buildings of all kinds, all necessary stock, and good fences and orchards. He takes considerable interest in political matters, and is a Republican in his views. He and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and to their union a family of three children have been born: Rammar (married, and resides in Adams County), Simon (at home), and Ettie (who died at the age of two years).

John Van Boening is a brother of the above named gentleman, and, like him, a successful tiller of the soil and a prosperous stock raiser. His birth

also occurred in Germany in 1840, and there he, like all German youths, received an excellent schooling. In 1866 he settled in Tazewell County, Ill., and here his wife, whom he had married just prior to leaving Germany, died in 1868. Her maiden name was Fankel (Kries) Stikker, and by Mr. Van Boening she became the mother of one child, Frank, who is at present residing with his father. Mr. Van Boening wedded his second wife in 1870, she being a Miss Hebrieg Lolling, a daughter of H. Lolling, of Germany, who died there in 1876. Her mother, Auke Lolling, also died there in 1849, having borne two children: Hebrieg, and Arbetta, who died in Illinois in 1877. In 1876 Mrs. Van Boening came to the United States, and with her husband emigrated to Nebraska in March, 1866, where he purchased 160 acres of some of the best land in Adams County. From 1869 until his removal here he had resided in Logan County, Ill. His labors have met with well merited results, and he is now one of the prosperous agriculturists of this county. He has always voted the Republican ticket, and while a resident of Logan County, Ill., held the position of school director. He and wife are members of the German Presbyterian Church, and are the parents of the following named children: Swanetta, Harn, Elizabeth, Simon, Katie, Arbetta and Lena.

Simon Van Boening has resided on his present farm of 160 acres in Section 23 6 9, Adams County, Neb., since he made the purchase in 1880. His property is well improved, and the manner in which it is conducted speaks highly of his good judgment and ability as a manager. Born in Germany, in 1857, he was the youngest of a family reared by Simon Van Boening. In 1869 he emigrated to the United States, and settled near Lincoln, in Logan County, Ill., where he remained ten years, his attention being given to farming and stock raising. In 1879 he came to the State of Nebraska, settling in Hanover Township, and for two years made his home with his brother William, after which, in 1881, he bought and moved to his own property, which he has since been actively engaged in cultivating. His property has been accumulated by his own personal hard work, close application and good management, and he has transformed it from a vast extent of

prairie land to a finely tilled farm. This he deems one of the fairest of farming communities. He is a Republican in politics, and is a supporter of schools, churches, and all good works having for their object the upbuilding and development of his adopted home. He and wife are members of the German Presbyterian Church, and he was its first trustee. August 28, 1881, Miss Ida Schmidt, a daughter of H. R. Schmidt, became his wife, she being a native of Peoria County, Ill., born July 21, 1860. They have four boys: Hiram, Simon, Class and George. Mr. and Mrs. Van Boening are highly respected throughout the community.

Jans Van Hove is a prosperous farmer and stockman of Adams County, Neb., and from this brief and incomplete view of his life record it will be seen that his days from his earliest youth up have not been uselessly or idly spent. A native German, he was born in 1827, and possess all the characteristics of his race, that of sterling integrity, industry and frugality being among the number. His father, Tirde Van Hove, was a sailor, and died in 1860; his wife, Catharina O. Van Hove, passing from life in her native land in 1884. Jans Van Hove was married in his native land in 1858 to Miss Anna Dinkale, by whom he has reared the following family: Tirde, Sientje (Mrs. Boontjer), Catharina, Geentje (Mrs. Dykhuisen), Angenete, Ede and Johan. Upon first coming to the United States Mr. Van Hove settled in Ogle County, Ill., in 1864, and after making that county his home until 1878, he came to Nebraska and purchased 160 acres of railroad land in Hanover Township, Adams County, and on this has since made his home, having improved it to a very great extent. His property has been acquired by honest toil, and he gives every promise of becoming a wealthy man, if hard work and enterprise can accomplish the desired results. He is a deacon in the Reformed Church, and on the northwest corner of his property has been erected a substantial church, in which he and his family, as well as their neighbors, worship. Mr. Van Hove is independent in his political views.

Frederick C. Van Veghten, farmer, stock raiser and furniture dealer. The life of this well known gentleman affords an example which might well be

imitated by the young men of the present day. Upon starting out in life for himself it was with little means and as a farmer in Cook County, Ill., and this occupation continued to receive his attention there until the spring of 1884, when he came to Nebraska and located on 160 acres in Roseland Township, Adams County, where his enterprises have resulted successfully. Besides tilling his land he gives considerable attention to the raising of stock, especially to the propagation of Hereford cattle, and is also engaged in dealing in furniture at Holstein, and his efforts to build up and develop trade at this point have been very successful. He was married in Kankakee County, Ill., to Miss Jennie M. Storrs, a native of Essex County, N. Y., and a daughter of Hiram and Jane (Ferris) Storrs, also of that State, and well-to-do agriculturists, now residing in Kankakee County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Van Veghten have a son and daughter, named Carrie and Fred. Mr. Van Veghten is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was born at Eagle Bridge, Rensselaer County, N. Y., on December 12, 1849, and is a son of George and Florinda (Crofutt) Van Vechten, who were born in New York and Vermont, respectively. The father moved with his family to Maywood, Ill., in 1861, but is now residing in Kankakee. His ancestors were among the early Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam. His wife belonged to an old Vermont family of English and Scotch extraction.

Napoleon B. Vineyard, police judge of the city of Hastings, Neb., was born in St. Clair County, Ill., February 10, 1835, being the only surviving member of a family of seven children born to George W. and Elizabeth (Hendershott) Vineyard, who were born in Fauquier County, Va., in 1810, and Trumbull County, Ohio, in December, 1812, and died at Lebanon, St. Clair County, Ill., in 1845, and in Henry County, Iowa, in 1865, respectively. The father was a contractor and builder by occupation, and his father, Robert Vineyard, was a Virginian by birth, born in 1780, and passed from life in St. Clair County, Ill., in 1840, he having moved to this location as early as 1818, the year of its admission into the Union as a State. David Hendershott, the maternal grandfather, was born in Washington

County, Pa., in 1789, and departed his life in Henry County, Iowa, in 1864. To this county Napoleon B. Vineyard was taken by his parents at the age of nine, and here he remained ten years, receiving his education in the common schools. He then took up his abode in Iowa County, and as he was always a staunch supporter of the Republican party he was elected on that ticket in 1856 to the office of county sheriff; was re-elected in 1858, his term expiring on January 1, 1860. October 1, 1863, he was elected treasurer of Iowa County; was re-elected in 1865, and in May, 1868, was a delegate to the National Republican convention at Chicago. From 1864 to 1874 he was a delegate to all the Iowa State Conventions, and in June of the last named year he entered the employ of the federal government as special examiner of the pension bureau. This position he resigned in 1878, and in the following October came to Hastings, Neb., and engaged in the real estate and insurance business, in the conduct of which he was quite successful. In the month of April, 1889, he was elected police judge of Hastings. His career has been characterized by a noticeable devotion to the interests of the communities in which he has resided, and in his sphere of public duty he has proven himself to be capable, popular and courteous. While a resident of Iowa he became a member of Marengo Lodge No. 114 of the A. F. & A. M., in 1856, and is now a member of Hastings Lodge No. 50, Chapter No. 28, Council No. 21, Fiducia Lodge of Perfection No. 3. He is a Scottish Rite Mason of the 32°, and although he is only fifty-four years of age, he is probably the oldest Mason in Adams County. He is also a charter member of Hastings Lodge No. 28, K. of P. Since May, 1884, he has been the Hastings correspondent for the Chicago Tribune. November 1, 1858, he was married to Miss Ruth Dillon, who was born in Knox County, Ohio, November 10, 1839, a daughter of Israel and Mary Dillon. They have six children: Huber, Aggie, Amelia, Zulah, Julia and Robert.

Warren H. Waldron is a Michigander by birth and bringing up, and has inculcated in him the sterling principles of the better class of citizens of that State. His career furnishes a striking illustration

of the fact that no matter in what channel a man's career may lie, a good education is of undoubted benefit. His elementary schooling was received in his native county, Washtenaw, where he was born November 22, 1850, but he also received the advantages of the public schools of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. Being brought up to the calling of a farmer by his father, he has made that his occupation through life, and has been tilling the soil in Adams County, Neb., since 1874. His farm is situated about seven miles southwest of Hastings, and comprises 400 acres of finely improved land, well stocked, Mr. Waldron giving especial attention to the propagation of Clydesdale horses, Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs. In his political views he was formerly a Republican, but is now a Prohibitionist. In 1884 he was elected a member of the county board of supervisors, serving four years, and in 1889 was again elected to a two years' term. He was married in 1875 to Miss Eliza Kenny, who was born in Washtenaw County, Mich., January 30, 1856, and by her has two children: Clarence R. and Norris W. Mrs. Waldron is a daughter of John and Adelia (Queal) Kenny, who were born in Vermont and Pennsylvania, in 1820 and 1827, respectively, and were among the first settlers of Washtenaw County. Mr. Waldron and his wife are members of the Congregational Church, and he is one of the representative men of the county. Mr. Waldron's parents, William and Martha (Ayres) Waldron, were born in Seneca County, N. Y., in 1814 and 1819, respectively, and are now residing in Jackson County, Mich. On February 28, 1889, they celebrated their golden wedding, there being four generations represented. Although a farmer formerly, he is now retired from active business life.

M. F. Wallace, since his residence in Adams County, Neb., has figured conspicuously among the successful agriculturists of the region, and has won golden opinions for himself as a man and citizen. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, near Georgetown, about forty miles north of Cincinnati, in 1828, being the eldest of a family of seven children born to Nicholas and Sarah (Gates) Wallace, the former of whom was born in Fayette County, Pa., in 1805. He was a tanner by trade, and at an early day re-

moved to Brown County, Ohio, where he married, but died in Marshall County, Ind., in 1875, his wife dying in Nebraska in 1887. They were members of the Seventh Day Advent Church, and in his political views he was a Democrat. His union, which took place in 1826, resulted in the birth of these children: Martin F. (the subject of this memoir), Margaret J., Sarah, Henry, George, James and Augusta. The maternal grandparents, Martin and Sarah Gates, were born in Virginia. Martin F. Wallace spent his school days in Ohio, and in 1850 went with his parents to Indiana, where he started out in life for himself as an iron forger, then turned his attention to farming, commencing the latter occupation in 1861, continuing in Indiana until 1873, when he emigrated to Nebraska, and entered and purchased 160 acres of land in Adams County, about two and a half miles from Hastings. At that time his property was wild prairie land, but is now finely improved with good buildings, orchard, etc. He has been a member of the school board of his district ever since he has been in the State, and in his political views is a Democrat. He was married in Indiana, in 1855, to Miss Julia Bells, a daughter of John Bells, but she died in 1858 in giving birth to a son, Thomas, who died at the age of three months. Nellie, the daughter of Henry and Isabel Gaddis, became his wife in 1860, their children being named as follows: Frank (who resides in Lincoln County, near Wallace), Julia (who died in 1875), Etta (Mrs. Borley, residing at Hastings), Wilbur L. (living in Box Butte County), (Charles who died in 1873), Edgar (living with his parents), John, Anna May (who died in 1879), Julius (at home), Bonnie (who died in 1874), and Bessie (who died in 1876).

L. J. Ware is one of the prosperous general merchants of Prosser, Neb., and by his superior management and excellent business qualifications has become well known as a leading business man of the county. Born in Vermont, in 1851, he is the sixth of eight children born to Enoch and Louisa (Atwood) Ware, the latter of whom died when the subject of this sketch was a small child. The father was a farmer of Vermont, and made his home in that State until his death, being an active Republican politically, and a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church at the time of his death. L. J. Ware, like so many of the substantial citizens of this county, was initiated into the mysteries of farm life in his youth, but up to the age of eighteen years he was also an attendant of the common schools, acquiring thereby a fair knowledge of the common English branches. He then started out in life for himself as a coachman, but at the end of one year discontinued this occupation, and in 1871 removed to Montgomery County, Ill., where he purchased 120 acres of wild land, which he greatly improved, and on which he resided until 1885, then sold out and came to Nebraska, settling in Hastings, where he clerked for one year for A. J. Nowlan. He next located in Hansen, where he opened a general mercantile establishment, and was thus engaged in business alone for one year, then formed a partnership with E. Hemenover, and the firm took the name of Ware & Hemenover. After another year spent in this manner he sold out to his partner and came to the then new town of Prosser, where he opened the first general mercantile house, also purchasing a number of lots and erecting a store building and residence. He has done exceptionally well and commands a large trade in the surrounding country. He was married in 1872 to Miss Adelaide Mack, a native of New Hampshire, and by her has one child, Lena M. He and wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are also staunch supporters of the cause of temperance. Mrs. Ware being a member of the W. C. T. U., of which organization she was the first president in Adams County, Neb.

Jacob S. Way, farmer and stock raiser, Hastings, Neb. In Pennsylvania, in 1842, there was born to John F. and Mary A. (Masters) Way, a son, who is now taken as the subject of this sketch. He received his education in Ohio, and in 1863 started out for himself as an agriculturist. The same year he emigrated to Macon County, Ill., remaining there one year, and then moved to Iowa, settled in Van Buren County, and was there married to Miss Rachel Logsdon, the daughter of Lawrence and Naomi (Shaffer) Logsdon, natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania, respectively, and both of German descent. Mr. Logsdon died in 1860. In 1872 Mr.

Way moved to Adams County, Neb., took up eighty acres of land, and to this he added until he had 300 acres; he now has 160 acres of as good land as is to be found in the county. He is also engaged quite extensively in stock raising. He is honest and upright, and by his enterprise and industry has been quite successful. He has seen the complete growth and development of the country, and has been untiring in his efforts to further all enterprises for the advancement of the same. He and wife are members and earnest workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is steward and trustee of the same. He has a church on his land which was erected in 1884, and of which he is class leader. To his marriage have been born these six children: John L. and William (twins, the latter married to Miss Mary Crane), George W., Mary N., Eva L., Charles, Ida B. and Harvey. As before stated Mr. Way is the owner of 160 acres of land, and in 1889 he sold 160 acres, and has located his three sons in Perkins County, on 160 acres each. Thus it may be seen what Mr. Way has been doing since a resident of Adams County. He also has money invested in property in Hastings. In his political views he affiliates with the Farmers' Alliance, and votes for principle rather than party. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Hastings Lodge No. 50, and is a member of Hastings Chapter No. 21. He is a member of Hastings Lodge No. 43, A. O. U. W. In 1887 he held the office of supervisor in Ayr Township. He has been a member of the school board, and has held the office of treasurer for some time, and now holds the office of director. His parents, John F. and Mary A. (Masters) Way, were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was born in Wurtemberg, in 1816, and remained in his native country until seventeen years of age, when he emigrated to this country. He was a blacksmith by trade and was married in Pennsylvania, in March, 1837, to Miss Masters, who was of German origin. The mother died about 1851, in Ohio, whither they had moved that year, and the following year the father married Mrs. Caroline Huftill, who died in 1878. His third marriage occurred in 1879. He is still living and is seventy-four years of age. To his first marriage were born

three children: John H. (living in Nebraska), Elizabeth (deceased) and Jacob S.; and to his second marriage also three children: George, Mary and Elizabeth.

Edwin C. Webster, treasurer of the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company, and one of the leading Freemasons of Nebraska, was born at Phelps, Ontario County, N. Y., on April 26, 1850. His father, Isaac Catlin Webster, was born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1808, and died near Phelps, N. Y., in 1858. He was the son of James Webster, a native of Vermont, who died at the age of eighty-six years. The Webster family trace their ancestors back to Gov. John Webster, who was born in England, emigrated to America in 1836, and was the fifth governor of the Connecticut colony. The mother of Edwin C. Webster, Armenia Burtis, was born in New York City in 1815, and died at Hastings, Neb., in 1889. Her father, Arthur Burtis, was born in the city of New York, was a prominent member of the Tammany organization, and was for some time a member of the board of aldermen, and well known as superintendent of public charitable institutions, several of which he was instrumental in founding. His death occurred in Geneva, N. Y., in 1835. Edwin C. Webster is the youngest son of seven children, four of whom are now living. He was reared on the farm, attended the public schools, and subsequently entered the Phelps high school. In 1869 he began clerking in the dry goods store of T. J. Lyman, at Phelps, N. Y., where he continued for three years, and then entered the employ of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad at Cincinnati, in the freight department. There he continued until the spring of 1874, when he came to Kansas City, and for some time was station agent in the employ of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, at Belton. Later he was employed as bookkeeper for the Kansas City Railroad Transfer Company. In April, 1875, he went to Des Moines, Iowa, entered the employ of the Iowa Loan and Trust Company, beginning at the bottom, and at the time of his resignation was assistant secretary. In January, 1881, he came to Hastings, Neb., and became a member of the firm of James B. Heartwell & Co. In May, 1882, he became the treasurer of the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company, which position he has since

filled. He was made a Mason in Hastings Lodge No. 50, in April, and dubbed a Knight Templar in the Asylum of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, in December, 1882; took the fourteenth degree, A. & A. S. Rite, in this city, in Fiducia Lodge of Perfection No. 3, March 24, 1884; the thirty-second degree from Inspector General Robert C. Jordan, October 16, 1884, and December 15, 1888, he received the thirty-third degree at Omaha, in the southern jurisdiction, U. S. A., from Albert Pike. He is the only thirty-third degree Mason in Hastings. He was Master of Hastings Lodge in 1886, and in 1887 he was High Priest of Hastings Chapter No. 21, R. A. M., also the first Master of Hastings Council No. 3, R. & S. M., and one of the leading spirits in the erection of the Masonic Temple in 1886, and in 1889 Generalissimo of Mt. Nebo Commandery No. 11, K. T. He was united in marriage at Galveston, Texas, on October 11, 1875, to Miss Rosa E. Smith, a native of Charleston, S. C., born on December 14, 1853, and the daughter of Benjamin F. and Julia A. (Jaudon) Smith. Mr. Smith was a merchant and contractor, and died at Galveston, Texas, in 1886. His wife was born in Charleston, S. C., and now resides at Austin, Texas. Mrs. Webster is a niece of Judge Cole, one of the founders and leading men of Galveston, Texas. To Mr. and Mrs. Webster have been born four children: Edna L., Louis S., James F. and Cornelius C. Mr. Webster is a Republican in politics and one of the leading men of Hastings.

George T. Wheat, farmer and stockman, Holstein, Neb. Nowhere in Logan Township is there to be found a man of more energy or determined will or force of character than Mr. Wheat possesses, and no agriculturalist is deserving of greater success in the conduct and management of a farm than he. His birth occurred in Tioga County, N. Y., on July 27, 1843, and he grew to manhood in Illinois, whither his parents had moved in 1856, and there remained until nineteen years of age. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Seventy-fourth Illinois Infantry, and served until discharged in June, 1865; during that time participating in the following engagements: Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, where he was shot through the left breast and disabled from

further duty. After being discharged he returned to Illinois and the following year engaged in cultivating the soil. Later he settled on a farm in Winnebago County and continued his former pursuit until 1871, when he moved to Nebraska, arriving in that State in May of that year. He located first in Webster County, and, after a residence there of four years, removed to his present residence in 1875. He has 160 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation, has good buildings, a good bearing orchard and is a prosperous and enterprising citizen. He was married in Adams County on March 28, 1875, to Miss Mary Shellhamer, a native of Wisconsin, and the daughter of E. C. Shellhamer. To this union have been born two children: Charles and Alice. Mr. Wheat is a member of the G. A. R., and is a member of the relief corps, same organization. He has ever been a Republican in his political views, and was elected district treasurer in 1875, which position he has held ever since, with the exception of two years. His parents, James and Erminie (Hall) Wheat, were natives of New York State, and he was a carpenter and contractor by trade. He moved to Illinois in 1856, located in Winnebago County, and there he still resides engaged in tilling the soil.

John White (deceased) was a prosperous farmer and stockman of Hanover Township, Adams County, Neb., and was born in the "Emerald Isle" in 1817, in which country his parents lived and died. His father, Arthur White, and wife reared a family of seven children, of whom John was the eldest, and all are now living in the United States, located at Philadelphia. After coming to the United States John White also resided in that city for many years and was married in Philadelphia, Pa., to Miss Eliza McCully, a daughter of John McCully, of Ireland. To their union a family of seven children were born and all were reared in the State of Pennsylvania, their names being, Wesley M., Martha (who died in 1880), Margaret (who died in Pennsylvania, in 1869), John, James, Joseph and Lizzie (now Mrs. Coltrin). In 1872 Mr. White removed to Nebraska, and took up a homestead of eighty acres in Hanover Township, also pre-empting eighty acres more, but here his career was closed forever, his death occur-

ring in 1887. He was a man whom all delighted to honor, for he was the soul of honesty, was energetic, enterprising and public spirited, furthering all worthy public enterprises to the best of his ability. He and his wife were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and upon his death his third son, James, took the homestead in charge, and has since farmed it on shares. The eldest son, Wesley M., spent his younger days in Pennsylvania, there also receiving his education, but upon his father's removal to Nebraska he came also and homesteaded 160 acres on the same section as his father. Here he was married in 1878 to Miss Amanda F. Abrams, a daughter of Joseph and Amanda (Rowe) Abrams, the former of whom was a Pennsylvanian. Mr. and Mrs. White have one child named Roy A. After breaking up a portion of his land Mr. White succeeded in obtaining a school and taught the "young idea" in the first school house built in Adams County. He also carried on farming, but later became an employe of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, acting as conductor on that line for about six years. He was conductor of the first train that ran into York and Blue Hill, building the road to the former place, but in 1879, gave up railroading and returned to farm life. His brother, John H., resides at Hastings, and was married to Ada Snodgrass, by whom he has four children. Joseph B., another brother, is baggage master on the Union Pacific Railroad. Wesley White served in the Union Army the last two years of the Rebellion, in Company D, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, Second Brigade, First Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, and took part in a number of hotly contested engagements, among which may be mentioned Berryville, Winchester, Cedar Creek, and numerous others. In January, 1866, he was discharged at Charleston, S. C. He is a charter member of the Masonic Lodge of Hastings, No. 50, and is one of the successful and intelligent residents of the county.

S. B. Whitman, farmer and stockman, Hastings, Neb. Among the worthy citizens of Adams County whose merits are such as to entitle them to representation in the present work, is Mr. S. B. Whitman, the subject of this brief notice. His connection

with the interests of Adams County have contributed very materially toward giving him an extensive acquaintance, while his accommodating and agreeable manners have rendered him none the less popular. He is a native of the Old Dominion, his birth occurring in 1837, and is the third in a family of children born to the union of David and Rebecca (Freeman) Whitman, the father a successful farmer by occupation. The latter was born in New Hampshire, in 1796, and died in Vermont, in 1874. His wife died in July, 1887. Their children were named as follows: Freeman, John, Monroe, S. B., Levi, Hattie, Nelson and Lucy. S. B. Whitman was reared in the Green Mountain State, Orange County, and in 1861 enlisted in Company E, Second Regiment Berdon's Sharpshooters, and was in the battle of Gainesville, two days at Bull Run, South Mountain, in a skirmish at Fredericksburg, Antietam, where he received a gun-shot wound in the right arm, and then went to Fairfax, Va., where he was confined in a hospital. His wound proved to be very serious, and he was discharged in 1862, on account of disability. He settled in Vermont, and in 1863 was united in marriage to Miss Elvira Wood, a native of Vermont, and the daughter of John Wood, also a native of that State, who died when his daughter was quite young. To Mr. and Mrs. Whitman were born five children, three now living: Mabel (now Mrs. Olinger, who resides in Blaine Township, Adams County, Neb.), Charley (at home) and Maud (at home). Mrs. Whitman is a member of the Congregational Church. Mr. Whitman emigrated from Vermont to Wisconsin in 1866, settled in Fond du Lac County, and there remained for eleven years. He then came to Nebraska, settled where he now lives, and is the owner of 160 acres of good land, all under cultivation. He has been road supervisor of the township, has been a member of the school board for six years, and holds that position at the present, and is interested in all that pertains to the good of the county. He is a Republican in politics, and is a member of Silas A. Strickland Post No. 13, G. A. R.

A. L. Wigton, secretary of the Union Life Insurance Company of Hastings, Neb., has been a resident of Adams County for the past seventeen

years. He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, January 19, 1841, and is a son of Z. P. and Margaret (Harrison) Wigton, who were born in Bradford County, Pa., and New Jersey, March 12, 1816, and August 17, 1815, and died at Malcom, Iowa, and Ponca, Neb., June 9, 1870, and April 1, 1889, respectively. The paternal grandfather was William Wigton, a native of New England, who died in Delaware County, Ohio, in 1866, at the age of seventy-eight years. A. L. Wigton received educational advantages beyond that of the average boy, and being a lover of books from his earliest youth, he made fair progress in his studies while pursuing an academic course at Central College, Ohio. After leaving school he began teaching, and was discharging these duties when the war cloud, which had so long been hovering over the country, at last burst; but he was not enrolled in the service until 1863, his previous application in 1862 being rejected on account of severe sickness which he had passed through, and from which he had not thoroughly recovered. He joined Company G, Eighty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and at the end of thirteen months he was honorably discharged for disability. In March, 1865, he removed from his native State to Iowa and took up his abode at Malcom, the occupation of farming receiving his attention for about five years, after which he, in August, 1871, engaged in the newspaper business, purchasing the Malcom Gazette, and six months later the Brooklyn Journal, successfully conducting both until March, 1873. At this date he came to Hastings, Neb., erected a building and established the Hastings Journal, and with the exception of a short interruption has been in the newspaper business here ever since, being at present proprietor of the Hastings Independent. In 1885 he assisted in organizing the Union Life Insurance Company, and has since acted as its secretary. He has always been a staunch Republican, and his first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln for his second term. In 1874 he was elected police judge and justice of the peace of Hastings, and also successfully filled the position of superintendent of public instruction of Adams County for two terms. In 1879 and 1880 he served a term in the State Senate, representing the counties of Adams, Web-

ster, Nuckolls and Thayer in this body. He belongs to the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R., and is an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church, and was one of the leading spirits in the establishment of the College at Hastings, and is now vice-president of the board of trustees. On December 5, 1866, he was married to Miss Mary A. Hunt, a daughter of Rev. John and Sophia (Bingham) Hunt. Mrs. Wigton was born in Delaware County, Ohio, October 29, 1847, and she and Mr. Wigton are the parents of three children: William H., Clara L. and Harrison A.

Dr. Josephus Williams, physician, Kenesaw, Neb. Among the younger members of the medical profession in Adams County he is whose name heads this sketch, and who is already well established as a physician of merit and true worth, and regarded with favor by those older in years and experience. His birth occurred in Miami County, Ohio, on May 12, 1847, and he is the son of George and Martha (Bear) Williams, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Tennessee. When Dr. Williams was but six years of age he moved with his parents to Iowa, Tama County, and they were among the first settlers there. In 1884 they moved to Cherry County, Neb., and there they now reside. They thus became pioneers of two States. Dr. Josephus Williams received the advantages for an education furnished by the early district schools, and as his father was a farmer and miller by occupation, he was taught this trade. Choosing the practice of medicine as a profession, he began to study under the instruction of his brother, Dr. David Williams. In 1879 he came to Kenesaw, Neb., and began practicing, continuing the same until 1882, when he entered the Omaha Medical College, from which institution he graduated in 1883. The Doctor is one of Kenesaw's pioneers. At the time that he first located here, the town consisted of four small houses, and he has therefore been an eye witness of its subsequent growth and prosperity. In 1868 he married Miss Malcenia Conger, a native of Bureau County, Ill., and a daughter of J. R. Conger, one of the early settlers there. To Dr. and Mrs. Williams have been born two children: Sarah E. (now Mrs. Dr. F. C. Brosius, of Kenesaw), and George E. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, and is active in the women's work. Dr. Williams is a member of the Adams County Medical Association, and in 1880 served as coroner of Adams County. In 1864, when but sixteen years of age, he enlisted in Company G, Forty-seventh Regiment Iowa Volunteers, and was stationed at Helena, Ark. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he was honorably discharged at Davenport. He is at present a member of the G. A. R., and is not only prominent in his profession but is a man who, by his genial and pleasing manners, has won his way into the hearts of the people.

C. C. Wilson, farmer and stock-raiser, Hastings, Neb. Highland Township is acknowledged by all to be one of the best agricultural townships in this county, and as such its citizens are men of advanced ideas and considerable prominence. A worthy man among this class is found in the person of C. C. Wilson, who moved to Adams County, Nebraska, in 1884, locating on a partly improved farm of 160 acres, on which he has made many and vast improvements since that time. He was born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1833, was the youngest in a family of three children born to Darius and Clarissa (Treakway) Wilson, natives respectively of New York and Connecticut. The parents were married in the last named State, and there the father carried on the blacksmith trade until 1860, when he moved to Ottawa, Ill., and there received his final summons in 1880. His wife died one year later. Their children were named as follows: Caroline (now Mrs. William A. Jones, of Highland Township, Adams County, Neb.), Charles (enlisted at Ottawa, Ill., in Waterhouse's Battery, in 1862, was taken sick and died the following year). C. C. Wilson secured a fair education in the schools of Connecticut and worked in the factories of that State (iron foundry) until 1856, when he moved to Knox County, Ill. There he followed farming and there, in 1865, he married Miss Mary A. Preston, a native of New Jersey, and the daughter of Thompson and Mrs. Preston, natives of New Jersey, who moved to Illinois and settled on a farm at an early day. There they remained the balance of their days. After his marriage, Mr. Wilson followed farming, and in 1884 moved to Adams County, Neb., where he

purchased land, erected buildings, set out orchards, and is now one of the progressive men of the county. He is also interested in stock raising and has a high grade of Short-horn cattle. He is not active in politics, but votes with the Republican party. Mr. Wilson lost his excellent wife in Illinois in 1874. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. To their union were born four children: Frank, Arthur, Cora and Charles.

Charles W. Wilson, recorder of deeds, Hastings, Neb. Prominent among the comparatively young men of Adams County, whose careers thus far have been both honorable and successful, is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., November 4, 1840, and is the son of George W. and Ann (Dragoo) Wilson, the former born in Massachusetts about 1820, and died in Wisconsin in 1856, and the latter born in New York about 1824, and died in Wisconsin the same year as her husband. They removed to Wisconsin in 1846, and here the father followed the occupation of a lumberman. Charles W. Wilson is the only living representative of his father's children. He came West with his parents in 1846, settled in Wisconsin, and there received a good common school education. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Eighth Iowa Infantry, and served through the entire war, participating in the battle of Shiloh, where after fighting all day on that memorable Sunday, April 6, 1862, about 6 o'clock he was taken prisoner with Gen. Prentiss' whole division. He was kept a prisoner nine months; part of the time under Wirz, of Andersonville notoriety. He was exchanged at Richmond, made a short visit home, and joined Grant's army in time to participate in all those battles which resulted in the capture of Vicksburg. Was in the battle of Memphis, and Spanish Fort, where Company A, of which he was a member, was specially detailed to lead the charge, which, after desperate fighting, resulted in the capture of that place. He was an active soldier in his regiment to the end of the Rebellion, participating in all its battles, and was honorably discharged on May 9, at Selma, Ala., having been a gallant and faithful soldier four years and nine months. On September 16, 1866, he was married to Miss Mary C. Boushoo, who

was born at Johnstown, Pa., in 1846. The fruits of this union have been two children: C. William and George E. After the war he located in Jackson County, Wis., and for three years was engaged in the stone constructing business, selling out at that time. In 1869 he moved to Hardin County, Iowa, settled on a farm and there remained until the fall of 1871, when he came to Adams County, Neb. He located on the southeast quarter of Section 18, Township 5, Range 10, entered a homestead and there resided until his removal to Hastings, in December, 1889. When he first settled in Zero Township, there were but three families living there. He is at present the owner of half a section. In politics he is an active Republican. He has always taken a deep interest in the politics of the country; has been an active member in county and State conventions since the organization of the party, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. In 1889 he was elected recorder of Adams County. The nomination of Mr. Wilson for his present position was brought about by the country wishing to be represented, and he was chosen as against any one from the city of Hastings. Mr. Wilson is a member of the G. A. R. He has been a resident of Adams County for more than eighteen years, and is one of its most respected citizens.

John Winter is a man whom nature seems to have especially designed to be a planter, for he has been very successful in the pursuit of this calling, and is now the owner of 640 acres of land, nearly all of which is under cultivation, the home place consisting of 320 acres. This property has been acquired through his desire to keep out of the beaten path and to his adoption of new and improved methods, together with industry, good judgment and economy. He was born in Germany, September 7, 1850, but being of an adventurous and enterprising turn of mind, he emigrated to the United States in 1871, and first took up his abode in Goodhue County, Minn., remaining there three years, and in February, 1874, came to Adams County, Neb., and purchased his present property. He tills large areas of land each year, and in 1889 devoted 200 acres to corn, 100 acres to wheat, 50 acres to barley, and about 100 acres to oats. He is the most

extensive farmer in Roseland Township, and everything about his property shows that thrift, good judgment and energy are the owner's chief characteristics. He has a good two-story house, a large barn, numerous sheds for his grain and stock, and has everything for the successful handling of stock, such as wind pumps, etc., this enterprise receiving much of his attention for the past five years. He will ship about one car load of hogs this season and six of cattle. He is trying to improve his stock, and has among his drove some fine thoroughbred Poled Angus cattle for breeding purposes. He was married in April, 1879, to Miss Mary E. Triester, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of William Triester, by whom he has the following children: Anna, Katie, Nellie, Maggie, Minnie, John, August and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Winter are members of the Lutheran Church.

George W. Wolcott, farmer, Kenesaw, Neb. There are many incidents of peculiar interest presented in the career of Mr. Wolcott, which cannot be given in the brief space allotted to this sketch. Known over a large region of country tributary to Kenesaw, his reputation is that of a man honorable and reliable in every walk of life. He was originally from Oneida County, N. Y., where his birth occurred on December 3, 1843, and is the son of Josiah P. and Hannah (Russell) Wolcott. His father was a farmer by occupation, and the early life of our subject was spent at hard labor, assisting his parents to make a livelihood from the stubborn soil. His educational advantages, like those of many a pioneer boy, were limited, the schooling received consisting of a few months' attendance at a subscription school, where each family paid a certain sum per capita for the children sent. On August 29, 1862, both father and son enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-sixth New York Volunteers, and fought side by side for the defense of their country, until soon after the battle of Fredericksburg, when the father died. George W. participated in fourteen general engagements as follows: Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, where he participated in the terrible struggle of Little Round Top, Williamsport, Bristoe Station, Rappahannock, Mine Run, Battle of the Wilderness, where

the fighting was so severe that in one hour one-half the regiment was killed, Laurel Hill, Spottsylvania Court House, North Ann River and Bethesda Church. He was taken prisoner near Richmond on June 2, 1864, and confined for a short time at Pemberton, Danville, Libby and Florence prisons, and for three months was confined in the terrible prison pen at Andersonville. He was paroled on December 10, 1864, and was afterward exchanged. He was honorably discharged in July, 1865, after which he returned home and engaged in the lumber and shingle manufacturing business, continuing at that until 1873, when he came to Nebraska and purchased his present farm of 160 acres in Wanda Township, and just outside the town limits of Kenesaw. He takes an active interest in both the business and political affairs of his community, and has served as justice of the peace, has also been a member of the election board, and was elected to his third term as assessor. He selected as his companion in life Miss Celestia E. Burr, a native of Lewis County, N. Y., and a daughter of Mr. John and Abbey (Tuttle) Burr, both New Englanders by birth, and was married to her on March 4, 1866. To this union have been born seven children: Ervin E. (deceased), Arthur M., Clinton A., Myrta H., Harry E., Guy E. and Abbie F. (deceased). Mr. Wolcott is a member of Matthias Post No. 155, G. A. R., at Kenesaw, and also a charter member of Kenesaw Lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M. Both he and his worthy wife are members of the Free Baptist Church, and the latter takes a deep interest in woman's work. She is a member of the Ladies' Missionary Society, and is also a member of the W. C. T. U.

John Woods, farmer and stockman, Ayr, Neb. Every community is bound to have among its citizens a few men of recognized influence and ability, who, by their systematic and careful, thorough manner of work, attain to a success which is justly deserved. Among this class is Mr. Woods, a man esteemed to be a prominent and substantial, as well as progressive, farmer of his township. Since 1870 he has been a resident of Adams County, Neb., and since that time has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was born in Lawrence County, Ky., July 15, 1843, and was reared and educated

in that county. His parents, James and Mary (Cains) Woods, were both natives of Kentucky, and the father was a hatter by trade, although he was also interested in cultivating the soil in Lawrence County. He sold out in 1859 and moved to Arkansas, locating in Marion County, where he died in 1860. His wife survives him, and now resides with a daughter in Nebraska. On October 10, 1861, John Woods enlisted in the Fourteenth Kentucky Infantry, United States Regiment, and served until discharged on January 31, 1865, four months after the expiration of his term of service. He participated in the battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the siege and surrender of Atlanta. While out on a scout he was taken prisoner in Kentucky, and held for six months, or until exchanged. He then returned to his home in Kentucky, but soon after came west to Montana, where he was engaged in mining and freighting for about four years. He returned to his native State in 1869, and the following year, as has been mentioned, he came to Nebraska. Here he has made his home ever since, and is the owner of 320 acres of land, all in a body, and rich bottom land. He has it all cultivated and is doing well. In 1885 Mr. Woods bought a lot of heifers, and went west to start a cattle ranch in Montana, where he continued for about two years. He moved his family out there and back in 1887, as the decrease in price of fat cattle disabled him financially. Mr. Woods was married here on July 31, 1873, to Miss Julia Duncan, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Patrick and Ella Duncan. To Mr. and Mrs. Woods have been born two children: Cora and Mary E., both attending school at Hastings, and now in their third year. Mr. Woods has served as a member of the school board, and is interested in educational matters.

George F. Work, attorney at law, also real estate, loan and insurance agent, Hastings, Neb. As a leading citizen of Hastings, Neb., in its professional, business and social life, lending eminent strength to its bar, tone to its finance and grace to its society, Mr. Work is second to no one in the city. He owes his nativity to Harrison County, Ohio, where his birth occurred on March 1, 1839, and is the son of John A. and Margaret (Gallaher)

Work, the father a native of Washington County, Pa., born in 1813. He removed from Ohio to Iowa in 1852 and died in Jasper County, of that State, in 1857. In early life he followed the carpenter trade, but later in life tilled the soil. The mother was born in the Keystone State in 1814, and is now a resident of Fairbury, Neb. George F. Work is the second of nine children, seven of whom are living: William G., George F., David C., Mary B., Alexander M., Anderson L. and Oria A. He first attended the public schools of his native State and afterwards spent some time at Wittenburg College, in Jasper County, Iowa. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Fifth Iowa Infantry, known as the Jasper Grays, and on July 9, of the same year, he was mustered into the Fifth Iowa, serving in that company until October, 1863, when he was mustered out to accept a commission as captain of Company E, First Iowa Infantry, of A. D., afterwards changed to the Sixtieth Colored Infantry. He served until October, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He was at the siege of Corinth, New Madrid, Island No. 10 and Iuka, Miss., where he was wounded. After the war he settled in Des Moines, Iowa, and for some time was connected with the Des Moines postoffice, and served as an officer of the Iowa Legislature for two sessions. In January, 1871, he removed to Arkansas, where he engaged in teaching, and was assistant secretary of the Arkansas Senate, taking part in the Brooks-Baxter war in that State in 1873-74. He continued at Little Rock until November, 1874, when he came to Hastings and here has since resided, with the exception of two years, when he was a resident of Colorado. Since his residence in Hastings he has been engaged in the real estate business and fire and life insurance, representing the best old line companies. He was admitted to the bar in Adams County in 1878, and to practice before the supreme court of Nebraska in 1881. He was married in Jasper County, Iowa, October 20, 1863, to Miss Maggie E. Sturgeon, a native of Lawrence County, Pa., born in 1844, and to this union have been born five children: Charles L., Florence B., George W., Roy D. and Edna E. In politics Mr. Work is a Prohibitionist. He is a member of the G. A. R., a

member of the Congregational Church, and has been superintendent of its Sunday-school for thirteen years. He has been a resident of Hastings for fifteen years and is one of the leading citizens of the same. In 1875 he was elected justice of the peace and discharged the duties incumbent upon that office for some years. In 1882 and 1883 he was county judge of Adams County, was also for two terms city police judge, and served two years as a member of the city council.

Abraham Yeazel is the efficient cashier of the Exchange National Bank of Hastings, Neb., and is one of the leading business men of the county. After attending the common schools and finishing his education in the Illinois Industrial University, he came to Nebraska and located at Lincoln in 1872, but after a short stay returned to Illinois, and for two years was engaged in teaching the young idea how to shoot, after which he returned to Lincoln and entered the employ of the firm of Cobb & Marquet, remaining with them until the fall of 1877, when he came to Hastings and established the Exchange National Bank, with which he has since been connected. In 1880 his marriage to Miss Eva Cox was solemnized. She was born in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1863, and is a daughter of A. W. and E. F. (Ballard) Cox. Mr. Yeazel is a Free-trader in his political views. He was born in Champaign County, Ill., December 28, 1851, being the son of James and Mary (Spencer) Yeazel, natives of Clarke County, Ohio, the former's birth occurring in February, 1811, and the latter's in 1815, and died in Illinois in 1888 and 1866, respectively. They removed to the State of Illinois in 1840, and were pioneer settlers of Champaign County.

Aaron D. Yocum is well known to the early residents of the county, for he has been a resident of this locality for the past eighteen years. He was born in Belmont County, Ohio, December 9, 1842, and is the fifth of eight children, six of whom are living, born to Samuel and Jane (Dewesc) Yocum, the former of whom was born in Lancaster County, Pa., in 1804, and died in Morgan County, Ohio, in

1878, having lived the life of a farmer. He, as well as his wife, was a member of the Quaker Church, the latter of whom was born in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1809, and died at Lloydsville, Ohio, in 1866. Her life was that of an exemplary Christian, and she was greatly beloved and respected by all who were so fortunate as to know her. Aaron D. Yocum received the advantages that usually fall to the lot of the farmer's boy, that is he attended the district schools near his home, but his studies, as well as his work on the farm, were interrupted by the murmurings of war, and in April, 1861, casting aside all personal considerations, and thinking only of his country's peril, he enlisted in Company K, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at St. Clairsville, Ohio, for the three months' service. At the expiration of this time he re-enlisted, this time becoming a member of Company E, Sixty-second Ohio Infantry for three years, and for faithful service he was commissioned first lieutenant on August 14, 1863. He veteranized February 4, 1864, and re-enlisted in his old company and regiment, upon which he was commissioned adjutant. At Deep Bottom, Va., he received a serious wound, and was honorably discharged from the service in December, 1865, and returned to his home and friends with the consciousness of having been a faithful and trusted soldier. In 1872 he removed from Ohio to Adams County, Neb., and located on a homestead just east of the present site of Hastings, and here two years later he began reading law in the office of Ash & Scofield, and in the year 1877 was admitted to the Adams County bar, and to practice in the federal courts in 1879. In 1874 he was elected a member of the board of county commissioners, serving for six years, and in 1880 was elected mayor of Hastings, and was again given this honor in 1888, which position he is now filling. He has always been a Republican, a pronounced party man, and socially is a member of Hastings Lodge No. 19, K. of P. He also belongs to the G. A. R. He was married, in 1866, to Miss Anna P. Strahl, of Ohio, by whom he has a daughter named Alice.

CLAY COUNTY.

CHAPTER XIX.

INTRODUCTION. POPULATION. ELEVATIONS. AREA. RIVERS AND STREAMS. PHYSICAL FORMATION. GRASSHOPPER
PLAGUES. EFFECTS OF SAME STORMS AND BLIZZARDS DESTROYING ELEMENTS. EXPLORATION.
PIONEERS. AN OLD SETTLER'S REMINISCENCES. INDIAN WARFARE. EVACUATION OF
SPRING RANCH. FEMALE CAPTIVES. ORGANIZATION OF OLD
SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

And even when
Perpetual reign'd, save what the zephyrs bland
Breathed o'er the blue expanse. *Thomson.*

CLAY County is known Con-
gressionally as Townships 5,
6, 7 and 8 west, in Ranges
5, 6, 7 and 8 north. It is
almost divided equally by the
longitudinal line 21° west of
Washington, between 40° and
41° north latitude. The estimated area is
576 square miles or 368,640 acres, and
the estimated population is 41,795, this
total being based on the 2,758 votes cast
for the county treasurer in November,
1889, multiplied by five. In 1870 the
population was 54; in 1874, 3,622; in
1875, 4,183; in 1876, 4,785; in 1877,
5,652; in 1878, 7,012; in 1879, 9,373; in
1880, 11,299; and in 1885, 14,157. The measured
elevations above sea level are Sutton, 1,680 feet;
Clay Center, 1,687 feet; Fairfield, 1,782 feet; Ed-
gar, 1,728 feet; Glenville, 1,842 feet; Verona, 1,776
feet; and Spring Ranch, 1,717 feet; all below the
elevations in Adams and Hall Counties.

The Little Blue enters the county a point west
of Spring Ranch, flows in a general course south-
east, and leaves the county at Section 34, of Fair-
field Township, about five miles south of the town
of that name. The west fork of Big Sandy Creek
rises in Glenville Township, and flowing southeast,
through Fairfield, leaves the county in Section 34
of Logan Township.

The head waters of the West branch of the Big
Blue wander through Leicester and Harvard Town-
ships, and feeders of this stream run through Lin-
coln and School Creek Townships. The South
branch of the Big Blue rises in Lynn Township,
with one stream coming down from Harvard City,
and flows in a general eastern course to Sutton, where
it follows a northwestern channel to its junction with
the west branch south of Lonsdon. In every sec-
tion of the county pure water is found at from forty
to 100 feet; while numerous streams run through
depressions in the prairie.

The soil is very productive, requiring only little
labor from the husbandman to show most satisfac-

tory results. It is related that during the terrible year of 1874, land which cost \$10 per acre and \$9.07 per acre for breaking, cross-plowing, seeding, harvesting, stacking and threshing, almost paid for itself that year. The soil is heavier and richer than that of adjoining counties, and every resident agriculturist points to Clay County as the paradise of the farmer. Tests of sugar beets grown near Fairfield in 1889 show 4.27 per cent of sucrose; while a test by L. E. Wales, of Edgar, of beets grown in that section of the county, indicate 6.54 per cent.

The grasshopper plague of 1874, described in the history of Adams and Hall Counties, did not overlook Clay. Every crop, except the wheat and barley, then harvested, was eaten up, leaving the settlers in a condition almost approaching poverty. Aid rendered by Congress and the State, as well as by the people, poured in to alleviate the distress, and in the fall of 1874 a committee of citizens was formed at Sutton to make an equitable distribution of this aid, namely: C. M. Turner, F. W. Hohman, R. G. Merrill, George Stewart and J. Steinmetz. Sutton was selected as the depot for the district which included parts of Fillmore, York and Hamilton Counties, and all Clay County. W. A. Gunn was president and M. J. Hull, vice-president of the sub-committee at Edgar, in the district of which Harvard was the depot. One-half a car-load of United States army clothing was distributed from Harvard, while from this point and Sutton, several car loads of coal and provisions were given out.

The people of necessity suffered much from the result of the insects' visitation, but they recovered in a surprisingly short time, and the following year found them in a position of comparative prosperity.

The distance from the great grain markets of Chicago, coupled with the high charges of the railroad companies, have militated against the agriculturists, not only of this section, but also throughout the whole State. The land has produced abundantly, enough to supply twenty times the number of inhabitants of Nebraska; but the prices obtainable for grain and other products have been so low as almost to oppose the idea of marketing farm produce. In February, 1890, Gov. Thayer and the people cried out for better terms from the railroads,

and the railroad magnates consented reluctantly to a 10 per cent reduction in carrying charges. Throughout the country, in February, 1890, great heaps of golden grain waiting shipment near every depot and farm house, told very plainly of the bounteous harvest of the year before.

As forest countries claim celebrated choppers; hemlock countries, famous bark-peelers, and mountain countries, hunters notorious and otherwise, so also do the rich corn fields of Nebraska claim heroic workers. In 1889-90, Albert Walters picked and cribbed 1,750 bushels of corn in seventeen days for Hugh Loudin, and for Davis, superintendent of the poor farm, 3,994 bushels in thirty-three days.

The blizzards of 1857-58 do not seem to have damaged person or property in this county. In November, 1871, a severe snow storm swept over this section. During its progress a settler named McGoon, and his son, living three and a half miles south of Harvard, started for the village, and had almost arrived there, when the older McGoon became dazed with the cold and failed to keep up with the son. After the storm a search was instituted, and his frozen body was found at the edge of the village corporation.

The blizzard of April 13, 1873, commenced with a heavy, cold rain, which, during the night, changed to sleet. On the 14th the air was filled with a heavy, watery snow, and this, driven by the strong wind, penetrated the heaviest clothing. The storm continued with unabating violence until the morning of the 16th. Snow banks were as high as the house tops in many places, and the ravines and creeks were packed full of this peculiar snowy substance. Cattle growers suffered heavily, their stock being driven to death before the gale. A Mrs. Kelly, of School Creek precinct, ventured to a neighbor's, a few rods away, saying as she started out that she would die with her baby. Both were lost and were frozen to death. In the transactions of the commissioners the names of many other sufferers are given.

The hail storm of 1881 was as phenomenal as it was disastrous. It swept across the northern sections from the northwest in the summer time, pounding into the earth the growing crops. This storm

cleared a five mile course, and during its forty-five minutes advance through the northern townships of the county left nothing in the way of crops untouched.

The storm of May 6, 1889, destroyed a good deal of property in and around Fairfield. Anawalt's new house in Canada was blown down.

The prairie fire of November 14, 1872, originated in a dug-out near Harvard, and spread out toward the Morgan homestead. His stable, four horses, two cows and farm implements were destroyed. A large area was burned over at this time.

The prairie fire of the same year was started by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad section men on the south side of the track. Some cinders were carried across the track by the wind, the tall grass caught fire, and from this very small beginning the blaze spread out until it had licked up the prairie grasses almost to the banks of the Platte River. Many residents lost heavily in this fire, but the losses were partly met by the railroad company.

In July, 1884, sparks from a St. Joseph & Western Railroad locomotive set fire to the prairie one mile south of Fairfield, and, spreading to the farms of Horace Tibbits, John Palmer and A. B. Palmer, destroyed their crops, orchards, hay and other property.

The prairie fire of April, 1885, originated on the Lewis farm, five miles north of Edgar. The people turned out in large numbers and organized to fight the fire, and at the bridge, near M. H. Cushing's house, elected A. G. Jacobs captain. The work of back-firing, plowing and wet-sacking the prairie was carried out systematically and with success. In the chapters devoted to local history references are made to smaller prairie fires.

The exploration of this territory by the Spaniards in the long ago is legendary rather than historical. In 1739 the French explorers placed on record an undoubted account of their travels along the Platte, and special explorations beyond the valley. The names of the adventurers were Pierre and Paul Mallet, Philip Robitaille, Louis Moven, Michel Bislot, Joseph Bellecourt, Manuel Gallien and Jean David, all from Quebec except David. Their mission was to establish trade with the Mexicans, and to find an

easy route from the great lakes to that country; they gave the title *La Riviere Platte* to this stream.

Lewis and Clarke, O'Fallon, Maj. Long, Fremont, the Argonauts, the pony express messengers, Halliday's stage drivers and the Indians and fur traders were the only travelers or temporary residents here up to 1857, when the first irregular attempts to locate permanently were made.

The homesteaders or pioneers of 1871 to 1873, who resided on their original claims in 1888, are named as follows and the location of their lands given: Mrs. A. S. Harding (husband deceased), from Illinois, settled on Section 22; J. W. Smith, from Illinois, on Section 28; Riley Thurber, from Ohio, on Section 34; J. W. Stacy, from Ohio, on Section 34; James Woodhead, from Wisconsin, on Section 8; Albert and William Woodhead, from Wisconsin, on Section 2; Mrs. Charles Hurlbut (husband deceased), from Michigan, on Section 14; Charles Ashley, from Wisconsin, on Section 8; Charles Bump, from Illinois, on Section 21; Peter Bures, from Illinois, on Section 32 (all the foregoing in Township 5, Range 5); J. N. Johnson, from Illinois, on Section 4; A. Wiggins, from Michigan, on Section 9; R. Culp, from Illinois, on Section 10; John Marshall, from Illinois, on Section 22; William Trent, from Illinois, on Section 9 (all in Township 4, Range 6); Mason Hungerford, from Michigan, on Section 4, Township 5, Range 6; J. J. Sanderson, from Wisconsin, on Section 22; J. J. and O. W. McCloughen, from Wisconsin, on Section 24; C. A. Bush, from Illinois, on Section 14; H. H. Perry, from Michigan, on Section 10; S. D. Beck, from Illinois, on Section 10; Otto Sirini, from Illinois, on Section 10; H. Linscott, from Maine, on Section 12 (all in Township 5, Range 5); J. G. Graham, from Illinois, on Section 2, Range 4, Township 5; S. T. Caldwell, from Illinois, on Section 4, Township 4, Range 6; William Prouty, from Michigan, on Section 32, Township 4, Range 6; Mrs. Daniel Lenfest (husband deceased), from Maine, on Section 4, Township 5, Range 5; David Smith, from Missouri, on Section 22, Township 6, Range 6; J. H. Hazlett, from Illinois, on Section 22, Township 6, Range 6; B. F. Nall, from Illinois, on Section 22, Township 6, Range 6; Mrs. L. Gra.

ham, from Illinois, on Section 12, Township 4, Range 5; Jeff Adcock, from Illinois, on Section 34, Township 5, Range 6; F. Northrop, from Illinois, on Section 34, Township 5, Range 6; D. B. Sanburn, from Illinois, on Section 4, Township 5, Range 6; Jesse Dalton, from Illinois, on Section 32, Township 4, Range 6; A. G. Jacobs, from Ohio, on Section 12, Township 5, Range 6; E. S. Smith, from Illinois, on Section 12, Township 5, Range 6; A. J. Long, from Indiana, on Section 20, Township 5, Range 5; C. Isham, from Ohio, on Section 4, Township 5, Range 5; S. Northrop, from Illinois, on Section 34, Township 5, Range 6; D. Essinger, from Illinois, on Section 2, Township 5, Range 6.

The first settler of this county was John B. Weston, who in 1857 located on Section 16, Township 5, Range 8, on the Little Blue, built a log house and called the place "Pawnee Rancho." Prior to this time a spot at the mouth of Liberty Creek, on the Blue, was a favorite camping ground for the mail carriers. In 1858 James H. Lemon kept Liberty Farm Rancho here, as agent of Wells, Fargo & Co., and in 1867 Benjamin and John Royce arrived. In 1864 James Bainter settled at Spring Rancho. In the spring of 1870 came A. D. Peterson, followed by Louis Peterson and Jonas Johnson, all Swedes. They were here in April, 1872, when the Virginian, John L. Lewis, arrived. This settlement was given the name Lewis precinct, in 1875. On November 1, 1873, a Dane named I. C. Christianson settled in this precinct, and he is said to be the first of the sixteen Danes who were in the county in 1882. In the summer of 1870 two brothers named Norman, also natives of Sweden, settled in School Creek precinct, and in the fall John Kennedy, an Ohioan, located his homestead on Section 2, Township 8, Range 5. On January 27, 1871, A. K. Marsh built a log house on the creek, below the Normans' dug-out, Mrs. Marsh being the first white woman in this precinct. A. A. Covey, J. Steinmetz, the Ballzer brothers, F. M., Charles W., George and R. G. Brown came prior to April 11, 1871. W. Cuning and his wife followed in May, and later came R. L. Garr and W. E. Bemis. The Conant brothers arrived in Lincoln precinct in May, 1871, and on August 14 that year, W. T. McKnight arrived.

Orrin Conant was shot and killed here on May 10, 1875, by D. A. Smith, the trouble arising about the ownership of a claim. The same year Glenville precinct claimed the pioneers, Daniel Fitch, the trapper, J. W. Small, and Leroy S. Winters. B. F. Hocket constructed a sod-house on Section 2, Township 7, Range 7, in May, 1871, his contemporary settlers being W. H. Chadwick, J. D. Moore and L. J. Starbuck. C. D. Moore and M. L. Latham arrived shortly after, and when the precinct was organized in 1875, the name Lynn was given to it. Sutton precinct claims L. French, an Ohioan, as its first settler, in 1870. He built a dug-out on the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 7, Range 5, and soon after was visited by Capt. Charles White and Nellie Henderson, who rode from the West Blue in pursuit of an antelope, which they captured. H. W. Gray, his son and G. W. Bemis arrived May 4, 1871; William and Henry Smith, J. S. Schemmerhorn, James Vroman, the Angbergs, Hollingsworths, Brownells, Evans and Mathtys came about this time.

Leicester precinct was settled early in the winter of 1871-72, by Joseph Rowe, Stephen Brown, William Woolman and A. Woolman. With William Woolman was his adopted child, Miss Truelove Tibbles, who was drowned in April, 1876. G. W. Briggs and George McIntire were the first settlers in Scott precinct, and in 1871 John P. Scott was the solitary occupant of Lone Tree precinct and the only settler for some time between School Creek and Spring Rancho. White Elm postoffice was presided over by him from the fall of 1871 until its removal to Fairfield, June 27, 1873. Reuben Peachy erected a house for general mercantile purposes in 1870, and was the first postmaster appointed in Clay County. After the re-establishment of the mail service, Richard Bayley, a blacksmith, located at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, followed by H. J. Higgins. In 1871 a water-mill was constructed near the Liberty Rancho, by Al. Mills. Sheridan precinct was settled in 1872, by John Yates, Patrick Nagle, R. Hilliard, R. M. Mariner, T. R. Elder and Dennis Lahane. Logan precinct was first settled by Albert Curtis, March 7, 1871. Within a short time Riley Thurber, John Yandle, Wright Stacy, E. M. Isham,

Nathan Tucker, A. Christison, Fletcher Page and the Pascalls arrived. J. B. Dinsmore came in May, 1872. The first settlement in Marshall precinct was made in July of this year by Flavius Northrup, followed by W. S. Addison and Warner Randall. J. Prawl and William Tolle. In November, 1871, J. K. Sanborn arrived in Edgar precinct as its pioneer, followed by the Carrs. Jacob Ritterbush came in 1872 and was appointed postmaster in June, and the same month the Jones family arrived. In the pages devoted to local history and biography, the details of the various settlements throughout the county are given.

The history of the early years of this division of Nebraska is based largely upon the relations of James Bainter, just as the early history of Adams County is told by Bill Kress, and of Hall County by William Stolley. Mr. Bainter, writing in 1889, for the *Fairfield News*, gives the following sketches:

After arriving here I found a man named Lenard, who owned the ranche, having bought it of the Roper boys, whose uncle had built it in 1860. I traded for it in January, 1864, and moved my family in February. There was then no settlement in Clay County, except at Pawnee Ranche, and a stage depot at Liberty Farm. During the fall of 1863 I hunted and tended the ranche. Emigration west was very heavy the entire year, principally men dodging the draft and going to Pike's Peak or any place where they could escape the war. During this year there must have been an average of nearly 300 teams daily. The Pony Express had been discontinued, and stages were used and running, one each way daily. There were plenty of buffalo, elk, antelope, and thousands of wild turkey; but the latter nearly all disappeared after the big storm of April, 1873.

The profits of the ranche business were wonderfully good; everything sold by the pound; potatoes sold for five cents per pound, the same for hay and other things in proportion. There were many Indians around during the summer, principally the Pawnees and Omahas—all friendly.

In 1863 I was at Hackney Station, kept by a German named Myers, when a Pawnee came without an arrow. He said that two Sioux had chased him

from the Solomon, and would soon overtake and kill him unless he could get some arrows. Myers had a lot of them, but would not loan him one. He started to leave when the Sioux rode up, shot him dead, and after scalping him rode off.

The winter of 1863-64 was rough and cold, but the travel continued good. In the spring I planted ten acres of corn, which promised well. This spring the Sioux, in great numbers, made their appearance on a hunting trip. They continued to come at intervals until August, paying for their goods in pelts or cash. Their camp at this time was down, or in, the Indian Territory. About the first of August I began to notice a change in their demeanor. They seemed sulky and ill-natured, so that I became uneasy. I sent word to the ranchmen along the route to look out for them, and also wrote to Fort Kearney, informing Gen. Heath of their actions. He replied that there was no danger, and that the Indians were friendly. I continued, however, to prepare for them. On the morning of August 9, I was going north of the ranche, and while riding along saw an Indian coming toward me. As we approached each other he suddenly left the path and, descending a ravine, was at once lost sight of. Something in his manner aroused my suspicions, and getting off my mule I cautiously approached the place where he disappeared; presently I saw him dismounted, and stretching his neck to see me. Twice I drew my revolver and could have easily shot him; but they had always been friendly, and I would not be the first to kill. While debating this question he discovered me, and, leaping on his pony, rode off, lying on one side of the pony, as Indians usually do when in danger of being fired upon. I knew now that business had begun. He descended the ravine into Pawnee Creek, where he was joined by two others. I then rode as fast as possible to my ranche, and told my wife to get ready for an attack. My son and hired man had gone to Pawnee Ranche that morning, so my wife and I went to work, she to moulding more bullets and I to trimming them. Soon we heard the clatter of horses' hoofs, and my son and hired man rode in very much excited, saying the Indians had attacked Pawnee Ranche; and had killed and scalped Burke, a freighter. They

described the Indians and I was satisfied, from the description, that they were the ones I had seen together. That day and the following night passed without further disturbance. The stage had failed to arrive that night, so in the morning I mounted a race mare which I owned, and started up the Blue to see what had become of it. I met it about three miles up the river, with several passengers, among them being the stage agent, at Lone Tree, and his wife. They reported that the Indians had surrounded the stage the night before, but that toward morning they had withdrawn. The morning before a man named Smith, from St. Joe, passed my ranche in charge of a train loaded with provisions and two threshing machines. The stage people did not meet Smith or his train. I suspected his party were either killed or captured, and so followed along the river to where I supposed they would camp for dinner, about six miles from Spring Ranche, now (1889) White's farm. There a fearful sight met my gaze. Every man of them, six in all, had been killed and all scalped except a red-haired Hibernian, who was shot in the temple and above the hip with arrows, and was still breathing. I pulled the arrow out of his temple, and went to a pond of water to obtain drink for him. I filled my boot with water, but when I returned the man was dead. There was the appearance of the desperate fight he made. The wagons were all gone except the ones on which were the machines; the flour was scattered around and the bacon piled up. I returned to my home; the Indians could be seen approaching. Knowing that my ranche could not be successfully defended I loaded my family in a wagon, while my two hired men (the Rev. C. W. Wells, of the Methodist Church of Davenport, Neb., and his brother) mounted horses, and all made for Pawnee Ranche, which was located one mile east of Joseph Meehan's present farm. Richard Wells was riding a fractious horse, and when approaching Pawnee Ranche the horse reared and threw him. The hammer of his rifle caught the horn of his saddle and it was discharged, wounding him severely. He called out that he was shot, and running to him I picked him up, threw him into the creek, washed his wounds, drew a silk handkerchief through them, cut out the

bullet with an ordinary pocket knife, placed him in the wagon and proceeded to the ranche, where we found the coach with three or four men and a woman. There were now fourteen persons in the ranche, among whom were "California Joe" and Joe Roper, father of Laura Roper, who arrived by a stage that morning. The Indians could now be seen, near the Llewellyn farm, approaching from the east. "California Joe" proposed to reconnoiter, and, mounting the best horse, went forth. I stayed on the house top to signal to him, while four or five men rode out to support him, should he require assistance. He had ridden about eighty rods when I noticed that the Indians were about to cut him off. He was busy watching them, but soon saw my signal and retreated, pursued by two Indians. When one Indian came within ten paces Joe turned and fired, hitting the Indian. He also received a hit in the arm, the other men going to Joe's relief. The savages came on in force. Seeing that the whites would be overtaken, I signalled them to dismount, which order was carried out, when the Indians went to cover, leaving the venturesome whites time to return to the ranche. The Indians lost three warriors, the chief and two others shot east of the ranche. That night their bodies were removed by the tribe.

During our fight at Pawnee, Joe Roper was on the ranche. He was rather fond of fire-water, and had indulged freely that day. I had placed a ladder against the house, and would occasionally go upon the house to see what the Indians were about. Joe Roper also concluded to look around, saying: "I'm going up to see the posish." I told him he had better stay down or he would get a posish, but up he went. As he was about to step from the ladder to the house, White Antelope sent an arrow after him which grazed his cheek and parted the hair on the side of his head. Joe, like a bear, let go all holds and dropped. The Indians made a great racket, as they supposed Joe to be dead; but they were as much surprised as the whites to see him up again as sober as a judge. After several months a company of United States troops carried away the skeletons of the murdered whites. The next morning, about 10 o'clock, we sent Mrs. Met-

calfe and the two wounded men to Fort Kearney on the stage coach, and the others of us went with them as far as Hook's Ranche, ten miles east of the fort, where we met a company of United States troops going after the Indians, Heath having learned at last that they were not as friendly as he thought. On our way we stopped at my ranche. Nothing remained but the smoking remnant of my property. All my stock was killed, except one poor team, and my total loss was \$5,872.50, for which I have a claim before Congress.

We remained at Hook's all night, and in the morning Metcalfe and wife returned, and we took the trail for Nebraska City. Following the Blue, we struck the location of the present town of Crete; thence proceeded to Beatrice, where I left my family and returned to bury the dead and gather up my stock. At Big Sandy, near where Alexandria now stands, we found a few men who were not molested by the Indians. About seven miles above that we came to the claim of two Germans, and found their bodies minus the scalps; buried them and went on to Hackney Station (Holiday's), which was destroyed. At Yulick's Ranche, six miles below Oak Grove Ranche, we found the two German owners dead and scalped. We found Kiowa Station burned, and near by the body of Joe Urbanks, who formerly had charge of Little Blue Ranche. He was shot by arrows and scalped. Oak Grove Ranche was destroyed, and near it lay the bodies of Kelly and Butler, the former a part owner of Pawnee Ranche, and the latter a farmer from near Beatrice. At this point the men resisted the Indians, but lost the two men named. Hurrying on to Ubank's Ranche, kept by Ubanks & Son (not Joe Ubanks who was killed), we found the remains of the old gentleman, his three sons and his daughter, aged eighteen years. She was a feeble minded girl, but this did not save her from the vengeance of the savages. Her body was horribly mutilated. The body of the youngest child, a boy about five years old, was found some distance from the house with seven arrows in it. The Indians scalped him, taking all his hair. Mrs. William Ubanks, her two small children and Laura Roper were captured and carried away. At the Narrows, a water place on the Blue, Mr. Canada's

body was found. He was lying on his face grasping a rifle, and the savages fearing him, did not approach to get his scalp. A short distance away we found two men and a boy dead and scalped. Close by were two wagons, one robbed of the team, and the other having the oxen attached, one of which was killed, and the other unable to stand from starvation. Up the Little Blue we came to a train of twenty wagons. There was no stock visible, and nothing was left of the wagons but the irons. Beyond this about a mile we found a number of bodies of men and boys. I have forgotten how many. This was near Little Blue Station, which was also burned. From this point onward we found many wagons either burned or ransacked, but no dead bodies. Buffalo Ranche, at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, southeast of Fairfield, on Thomas Shaw's farm, escaped injury, and was afterwards used as a stage station. Liberty Farm Station, near De weese, was burned and never rebuilt. Mr. Royce used some of the logs in his new house of 1869—the same which was burned in 1888 or 1889. The next point was Pawnee Ranche, which we found about as we left it after the fight, except that a large quantity of provisions had disappeared, probably at the hands of the soldiers, who were pretty tough men, most of them having been captured from John Morgan in his raid on Ohio. The next morning we went on to my place, having buried forty-eight bodies on our way up. The following morning we started down the river and found nearly 1,000 head of cattle, fifty of which, found at the mouth of Elk Creek, were claimed by the Eagle Gold Company as belonging to their wagon train. We found horses and mules with harness, bridles and saddles on; but they were so wild that it was almost impossible to get near them. This stock was all taken to Big Sandy, advertised and distributed among the surviving owners, my share for labor being \$90. After this I took my family to Missouri, but returned in a few weeks with my brother, only to find Capt. Flagg's troops at Pawnee Ranche. Next day I accompanied the troops up Thirty-two Mile Creek; found Lone Tree Station, the first above Spring Ranche, burned, and buried the six men whose bodies we discovered the morning

after the first fight. We found Elm Creek Station destroyed, while George Comstock's Station at Thirty-two Mile Creek was undisturbed, the owner having fled to Beatrice before the attack was made. Returning to the ruins of Spring Ranche, I found the station at Pawnee re-established, and immediately began the work of rebuilding Spring Ranche. In the spring of 1865 I brought my family from Missouri, and found Metcalfe and family at Pawnee Ranche. We each carried a small stock of goods. My store goods destroyed cost \$1,600. After this it was considered safe to leave the place, and the consideration was acted upon.

On my return in 1870, I found my claim jumped by Tom Smith, of Marysville, Kan. I stopped at Hackney Station and raised a crop while I defended my claim, and succeeded in obtaining possession of it. My buildings were nearly all ruined. John Crossman and John Holmes were living in one of my pilgrim houses, a small building used at ranches for pilgrims or immigrants to cook in. I found Lou Thayer, Robert Cargill and D. W. Evans on homesteads south of the Blue. They had settled there in the spring and summer, and in the fall assisted me in repairing my buildings. William Kress and Joe Fouts lived two miles farther up the river, on the edge of Adams County. John Llewellyn had his claim, but had not moved on it. G. W. Noble, Cyrus Griffith, F. M. Lewey, or Lucy, and wife, L. F. Fryar, B. R. Royce and W. S. Work resided at Liberty Farm. At this time I made it a business to locate people on claims up the river into Franklin County, but could not induce any to settle on the upland until all the bottom lands were sold.

Mrs. Bainter (Elizabeth Shultz) died suddenly from heart disease, March 7, 1885. She was the companion of James Bainter while in the army, and was present with him in many of the affairs here at home, told by him in his reminiscences.

The Old Settlers' Association was founded October 8, 1880, at Sloat's Hall, in Harvard. The object of this association was to place on record the happenings of all the years since the beginnings of settlement. L. N. Clark, of Sutton, was elected president; George Noble, of Fairfield, and C. J. Martin, of Clay Centre, vice-presidents; M. J. Hull, of Ed-

gar, historian; A. E. Goodall, of Lynn, secretary; D. N. Nettleton, of Spring Ranche, treasurer, and T. R. Elder, officer of the day. The executive committee comprised J. B. Dinsmore, of Sutton; J. J. Walley, of Edgar; L. Brewer, of Fairfield; Samuel Sloat, of Harvard; and L. N. Bryant, of Spring Ranche.

Clay County* was established by act approved February 16, 1867, within the following described boundaries: From northeast corner of Township 8, Range 5 west, due west to northwest corner of Township 8, Range 8, thence south to southwest corner of Township 5, Range 8, thence east to southeast corner of Township 5, Range 5, and north to place of beginning.

Clay County was organized under proclamation of Acting-Governor James (dated September 11, 1871), who ordered an election to be held at the dwelling of Alexander Campbell, Section 6, Township 7, Range 6, on October 14, that year. J. R. Maltby, Alexander Campbell and H. Manchester were named judges, with S. T. Davis and Chris Calkins clerks of this election. A. K. Marsh, P. O. Norman and A. A. Corey were the commissioners elected; F. M. Brown, the county clerk; J. Hollingsworth, the treasurer, on whose failure to qualify R. G. Brown was appointed; R. S. Fitzgerald, surveyor; James Schemmerhorn, superintendent of schools, and P. T. Kearney, sheriff. The vote for the candidates for the offices named, and other county officers, is given in the political chapter. The vote on location of county seat shows 56 in favor of the town of Sutton, Section 2, Township 7, Range 5; 24 in favor of the geographical center; 8 in favor of Section 34, Township 8, Range 7, and 1 in favor of Section 8, Township 5, Range 8.

On November 4 the county was set off into three election districts. Harvard embraced Townships 7, and 8, Range 7, Townships 7 and 8, Range 8, and the west one-half of Township 7, Range 6; Little Blue embraced Townships 5 and 6, Range 8, Townships 5 and 6, Range 7, and the west one-half of Townships 5 and 6, Range 6; while School Creek

*The name Clay was conferred on a division of old Pierce County as early as 1855, transferred to what is now the south part of Lancaster and north part of Gage, and ultimately given to the territory described above.

embraced Townships 5, 6, 7 and 8, Range 5, and the east one-half of Townships 5, 6, 7 and 8, Range 6.

Louis N. Bryant and A. S. Willis were appointed justices for Little Blue, James Bainter, John Royce and G. W. Noble, constables, and John W. Langford assessor. Samuel C. Sloat and Ira F. Pearsall were appointed justices of Harvard, Frank Cheney and Bradford Stone constables, and Charles E. Canfield assessor. A. K. Marsh was appointed justice of School Creek, W. Cumming constable, and J. C. Merrill assessor.

The license for the sale of spirituous liquors was fixed at \$25 per half year or \$40 per year. The county was divided into six road districts. The salary of the clerk was placed at \$300 per year; of school superintendent, \$4 per day for actual service.

In February, 1872, A. K. Marsh was appointed to proceed to Fillmore County and settle with the commissioners thereof, and W. W. Sellick was appointed to ascertain the amount of moneys due Clay County by Saline County, and R. G. Brown was employed as attorney in the suit against Saline County.

On March 2, 1872, R. G. Brown's house, at Sutton, was designated as the place of meeting, and there also were fixed the offices of county clerk and treasurer, the commissioners agreeing to pay \$10 per month rent from December 15, 1871. The owner was to furnish fuel in consideration of being allowed to use his office for his general business.

On March 12, 1872, M. L. Latham, Louis Thayer and John Kennedy were appointed appraisers of school lands in Clay County. In April, L. N. Bryant took Thayer's place. R. S. Fitzgerald was appointed commissioner to locate all roads "hereafter petitioned for." At this time \$5 was paid for hand-cuffs for sheriff's use; Martin Clark was allowed \$1.75 for medicines supplied poor persons, and \$16 was appropriated to build a bridge in School Creek at county line; while \$25 was appropriated to build a bridge at Sutton (after rescinded) and \$631.55 was paid Acres & Blackman for books, etc., for county. An election on the question of issuing bonds for \$75,000 to the St. Joe & Denver Railroad Company was ordered; the liquor license was increased to \$100

per annum, and the following tax levy authorized: State school, 2 mills; State general, 2½ mills; State sinking, 1 mill; university, ¼ mill; county general, 6 mills; sinking fund, 1 mill; land road tax, \$4 per 160 acres; court house, 1 mill, and bridge tax 2, mills. R. S. Fitzgerald was paid in July, 1872, for surveying poor farm, and A. A. Corey and F. M. Brown for locating said farm, while the clerk was ordered to procure pre-emption filing on the lands selected for farm. In October, 1872, an inquest on the body of Maximilian Reed cost the county \$7.10, while the case of the State *v.* D. A. Smith cost about \$50.

In October, 1872, Thurlow Weed was appointed probate judge in the absence of Maltby. A contract for an iron bridge at Spring Ranche was sold to the King Company, of Iola, Kan., at \$27 per foot, and a safe was ordered at a cost of \$500. In November, 1871, M. L. Latham took Mr. Corey's place as commissioner. Latham's resolution to build a frame court house at Sutton was carried November 16, 1872. On December 2, 1872, Big Sandy precinct was established embracing Township 5, and in Range 6, and the county divided into sixteen road districts. Louis Thayer was appointed surveyor *vice* R. S. Fitzgerald, deceased. On December 3, the contract for building the court house on Lots 3 and 4, Block 24, Sutton, was sold to F. M. Brown for \$1,865. On February 3, 1873, this building was accepted. M. J. Hull was appointed surveyor *vice* Thayer, resigned, and on April 21, the commissioners ordered that all property injured during the storm be stricken from the assessment roll—A. T. Patrick, two cows, one mule and one colt; Jonathan Sander son, three cattle; James Taylor, three horses; J. W. Wolf, one grain drill; G. M. Howard, one horse; J. V. Swearingin, one cow; T. T. White, two horses; David Jayne, one cow; W. F. Carroll, four cattle; F. O. Peterson, one cow; Joel Longstreet, one cow; H. J. Higgins, three cattle; Robert Balliett, horses, and W. B. Jenkins, property. J. F. Fleming was appointed county surveyor April 24, 1873. In May 1883, W. E. Bemis, Arthur Burlingame, Richard Smith, F. M. Davis and D. H. Leegate of School Creek; C. W. Inglesby, E. J. Stone, of Harvard; James A. Taylor, John W. Jones, Richard Thomas,

W. A. Trobaugh, John A. Webber, A. H. Elder, and Benjamin Graham, of Little Blue, reported horses, mules or cattle destroyed in the storm, and their assessment was reduced accordingly.

In May, 1873, J. B. Dinsmore, *vice* P. O. Norman, took his seat as member of the board. On May 6, the first printing contract was entered into by the county with the Harvard Champion, and the law suits by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company considered. A. J. Vanderslice was county physician in July of that year; Harvard was incorporated and the following tax levy ordered: State general, 2 mills; State sinking, $\frac{1}{2}$ mill; State school, 2 mills; State University, $\frac{1}{4}$ mill; penitentiary, $\frac{1}{2}$ mill; county general, 6 mills; county sinking, 2 mills; bridge, 4 mills; land road, \$4 per section, and poll tax, \$2. Special elections were ordered in Little Blue and Big Sandy precincts, to vote upon the propositions of Alfred Mills and Weston R. Peck; M. L. Latham resigned the office of commissioner, and Ezra Brown was appointed to fill the vacancy. On August 30, J. E. Philpot, of Lincoln, presented the petition of Reuben Peachey and others, asking that a day be named for voting on the question of re-locating the county seat. On motion of A. K. Marsh this petition "was tabled, rejected and stricken from the files." In September E. E. Brown was engaged to defend the county against the Burlington & Missouri River and Union Pacific Railroad companies, the consideration being \$375 and 20 per cent of taxes collected. In case the taxes were collected from the railroad companies the retainer fee was to be deducted from the total of commission, 20 per cent. In October the Sutton Times was declared the official journal of Clay County. The newly elected commissioners, R. Bayly, Ezra Brown and A. K. Marsh qualified November 8. The case of George F. Warren and D. W. Hollister *vs.* Stephen and William Brown, growing out of affairs in school district No. 37, occupied much of the board's attention in February, 1874.

At this time the commissioners of Lancaster County were notified to return all poor people, residents of Clay County, to Clay County; or, in default, bear the expense of keeping them. The final settlement with Treasurer Tracy was made, and

Treasurer F. M. Davis, installed. On petition of L. S. Winters, of the Nebraska Land and Town Company, 50 per cent reduction in the assessment of the town site of Edgar was ordered, and a 25 per cent reduction made on the assessment of Sutton, except lots fronting on Sanders and Malthy Avenues. In July, 1874, the tax levy for State purposes was 7 mills, and for county general, sinking and bridge funds, 12 mills, with a land road tax of \$4 per section, a poll tax of \$2, and a dog tax of \$1 and \$2. A special 4 mill tax was levied in Little Blue, to meet interest on mill bonds; a lot of railroad ties (lying near Glenville) numbering 30,000, were assessed \$5,750, and the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad Company was notified that their 110 sections of land in this county would be placed on the assessment books and taxes levied thereon for 1873. On July 20, a resolution authorizing the building of a county jail was carried, and the price set at \$1,000. In December contractor Ramsey turned over the jail building to the commissioners, and on December 8, Judge Gantt was requested to open a special term of court for Clay County. C. M. Turner was commissioner at this time, *vice* Marsh. On January 5, 1875, a resolution was presented by Ezra Brown, pointing out that the county seat was within one and one-half miles of the east line of the county; that it was located there when there were only about 100 voters in the county, and that a bill, similar to that which re-located the county seat of Saline County, fixing the seat of justice at some central point, was desirable. Mr. Bayly's motion to table this important resolution was acted upon without ceremony, and the second attempt to change the county seat was a victory for Sutton.

On March 1, 1875, the county was divided into sixteen precincts, each being a Congressional township, and all numbered from one to sixteen; Township 8, Range 5, being No. 1, and Township 5, Range 5, being No. 16. The question of giving a name to each precinct was left to the voters of each. The question of aiding the Sutton Mill Company by the issue of \$5,000 10 per cent bonds was submitted to the people of precinct No. 8, Township 7, Range 5, April 6. The town of Edgar was incorporated

March 15, and on April 19 names were given to the several townships, as follows: School Creek, Township 8, Range 5; Lincoln, Township 8, Range 6; Harvard, Township 8, Range 7; Leicester, Township 8, Range 8; Scott,* Township 7, Range 8; Lynn, Township 7, Range 7; Lewis, Township 7, Range 6; Sutton, Township 7, Range 5; Sheridan, Township 6, Range 5; Marshall, Township 6, Range 6; Lone Tree, Township 6, Range 7; Glenville, Township 6, Range 8; Spring Rancho, Township 5, Range 8; Fairfield, Township 5, Range 7; Edgar, Township 5, Range 6; Logan, Township 5, Range 5.

The tax levy for 1875 amounted to almost 7½ mills for State and 9 mills for county purposes, apart from the \$4 land road tax, the \$2 poll tax and the \$1 and \$2 dog tax. The interest fund of Little Blue claimed a 2 mill tax. The tax levy for school purposes in twenty-nine of the fifty-nine districts ranged from 10 to 25 mills, being 10 mills in districts 1, 59 and 11; 20 mills in districts 39, 35, 31, 40, 49, 33, 18, 9, 46, 28, 52, 51, 32, 29, 16, 3, 15 and 4; 15 mills in districts 10, 17 and 36; 12 mills in district 41, and 25 mills in districts 5, 43, 26 and 37, being the only districts in which school taxes were levied in 1875. The building of two bridges over School Creek, one between Sections 1 and 2, Township 8, Range 7, one on Liberty Creek, Township 5, Range 7, one on Sandy Creek, Township 5, Range 6, and a second on Sections 13 and 14 of that Township, one on Sections 26 and 23, Township 5, Range 5, and one on Sections 22 and 23, Township 6, Range 7, were authorized.

On July 7, 1875, a petition (signed by 403 legal voters), asking that the question of re-location of the seat of justice be submitted to the people, was presented to the board. The commissioners ordered an election on the subject to be held August 14, 1875, and designated the place of meeting in each township. A second order on this election made the date September 20. The result of this election is unnoticed in the commissioners' record, but it is found in the election returns and given in a following chapter. E. P. Alexander was appointed sheriff in December, 1875, *vice* Densmore resigned to succeed F. M. Brown as county clerk. The tax levy

* Called in land in November, 1888.

ordered in July, 1876, shows 7¼ mills for State purposes and 11 for county purposes, with the usual \$4 land road tax; the school district tax averaged 20 mills. During the fall of this year the construction of several iron and wooden bridges was authorized. In October M. Estes, E. H. Birdsall, J. D. Bain, V. L. Carr, Lyons Bros., C. K. Morrell, Orlo W. Birmingham, Henry Keller, H. H. Dishrow, Louis Stien, W. A. Farmer, J. W. French, J. W. Jacobson, T. J. Dowd, J. Geohring, S. M. Risly, C. D. Moon, T. J. Glover, W. H. Hammond, Jared Burdick, L. C. Howard, W. A. Birdsall, Erastus Austin, W. E. Welton, P. M. Colvard and I. D. Howard proposed to the commissioners that in case the people would select Harvard as the county seat at the election to be held in November, they would move the records and other property of the county (except the court house) thereto, grant one block of land to the county, provide county offices and court room until January 1, 1878, and pay \$1,000 for the old court house building. This proposition was accepted, subject to the necessary vote in November. In November Thomas W. Brookbank, superintendent of schools, resigned and J. R. Malthy was appointed.

The tax levy for State purposes made in July, 1877, was 10½ mills, and 11 mills for county purposes. The school district levy did not exceed 25 mills, and there is no record of poll, land road or dog tax made. In November the question of township organization was submitted. In January, 1878, Flavius Northrop qualified as commissioner, *vice* C. M. Turner retired; and E. B. Howard succeeded Densmore as clerk. A notice was ordered to be served on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company to appear before the board on April 2, 1878, and show why 560 acres of their lands in Section 22, Township 5, Range 8, should not be taxed. In reply to this notice the following letter was received from A. E. Touzalin, land commissioner of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 4, 1878.

Esqr E. Howard, Esqr, Sutton, Neb.

DEAR SIR: Your letter is received. We will waive notice in the matter of which you speak, and take no advantage thereon of the non-serving of the same. I would like to say to the officers of Clay County, that if the sys-

tion of paying for school bonds is allowed to be carried out, as in School district 37, we shall not only oppose it in every way we can as an illegal and unjust matter, but it will do the most serious injury to the county, and prevent the occupation of the railroad lands therein. The interests of the county and the company are mutual in this matter, and we hope that you will act with us in getting these large payments compromised by extensions over a long period of time.

Yours truly,

A. E. TOUZALIN.

W. K.

The tax levy of July, 1878, was 7 1/12 mills for State, and 11 mills for county purposes. The sum of \$260 was paid to James Laird for collecting taxes from the Burlington & Missouri Railroad Company, and his contract price for collections from the St. Joseph & Denver Railroad Company. The taxes for 1874-75-76 against the latter road were ordered to be struck from the books per decree of court.

On August 19, 1878, a petition by P. M. Colvard and 602 others praying that the liquor license be reduced to \$50 was met by a remonstrance by Miss Alice Houlgate and 106 others, and A. L. Lamont and 642 others against reduction. The commissioners fixed the fee at \$300 per annum, and the 750 remonstrants were happy.

On January 13, 1879, W. R. Hamilton, R. Bayly and Flavius Northrop took their seats as commissioners. The canvass of the vote on the re-location of the county seat was considered. The election on this question was held January 9, 1879. Of the total vote, 2,310, Clay Center received 1,293, and Harvard 1,015. No place having received three-fifths of all the votes cast, a new election was ordered to be held February 20, 1879, Clay Center, Harvard and Sutton being the competitors. It was further ordered to submit the question of levying a 3-mill tax in 1879 and 1880 for the purpose of creating a court house and jail fund. This election was duly held, but only 1,937 votes were cast, of which Clay Center received 1,376, or more than a three-fifths vote. On April 1 the commissioners declared Clay Center to be the seat of justice, and ordered the county offices, records, etc., to be removed thither on or before May 1, 1879. The vote on the building-fund tax was 1,339, or a three-

fifths vote. That day a contract was sold to F. A. Pyle and W. D. Young to erect a temporary court house for \$2,250, and complete the same before May 1, 1879. The clerk was ordered to advertise for bids to erect a \$7,000 county building, before the ink with which the agreement for the first building was written was dry.

On May 5, 1879, Commissioner W. R. Hamilton made the following resolution in regard to counting the Harvard vote: "Whereas it appears by the records in the clerk's office of Clay County, that the Harvard precinct vote cast at the election, February 20, 1879, for the re-location of the county seat of said county, has been rejected by the board of canvassers, and whereas it appears that a preemptory writ of mandamus has been granted by the supreme court of the State to Ezra E. Howard, clerk of said county, commanding him to forthwith call to his assistance two disinterested electors, and re-canvass and abstract the entire vote cast at said election, including the rejected Harvard precinct vote, and whereas it appears by the records that the said writ has been served for about a space of twenty days, and that said re-canvass has not been made, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the board of county commissioners, do request and advise the immediate re-canvass of said vote, as commanded in said writ." Later the injunction suit of L. A. Payne vs. R. Bayly, was commenced, and a special June term asked for by the county commissioners, to hasten judgment in the cause. On May 21, the last meeting was held at Sutton, when Rev. C. F. Graves was appointed surveyor. The first meeting of the commissioners, held at Clay Center, was that of June 2, 1879. The trial of E. P. Burnett, by the commissioners, was concluded July 23, 1879, when he was found guilty as charged in the complaint of J. M. Mills, and removed from the office of county judge. His motion for a new trial was overruled; W. S. Prickett was appointed county judge. C. A. Melvin is instructed to bring records and seals to Clay Center.

In July, M. S. Edgington and fourteen others, taxpayers of Edgar precinct, petitioned to the board to appoint a day for voting upon the question of granting \$12,000 aid to the Nebraska & Kansas

Railroad Company for building a road from Edgar to Superior.

On September 1, 1879, the commissioners met at Sutton, when E. P. Burnett was re-appointed county judge *vice* W. S. Prickett, resigned, and a resolution was adopted ordering that the record of proceedings in the case of his impeachment be expunged or erased, and that he be given possession of books, etc., belonging to the office. The meetings of September 15 and October 7 were also held at Sutton. On the latter day bids for a \$1,000 poor-house building were asked for. On November 4, 1879, a new vote on the re-location of the county seat showed a decisive majority for Clay Center, and the board declared it to be the county seat and ordered the removal of all officers, records, etc., thereto, on or before January 1, 1880. Bids for building court house and jail and poor house were re-advertised for in the Edgar Review and Plainfield News. On December 15, W. D. Young contracted to build the poor house. The first meeting of the commissioners at Clay Center under the "new law" was held January 6, 1880. Messrs. Hamilton, Bayly and Northrop formed the board. W. J. Keller qualified as clerk, to succeed E. E. Howard; George H. Van Duyne, as treasurer, to succeed W. S. Randall; and J. P. Nixon, sheriff, to succeed A. J. McPeak. L. A. Varney was appointed surveyor, John G. Nuss, coroner, and E. P. Burnett qualified as county judge. The proposition of J. W. Lewis to bore the county well at forty cents per foot was accepted. On February 6, George E. Birge was appointed to make an examination of the treasurer's books, from the beginning of the county to January 10, 1880, and on June 24, D. M. Leland was appointed superintendent of court house construction. W. D. Young was building contractor.

The court house was completed November 30, 1880, and Pedro Dominicus appointed janitor. Later that year John D. Hayes was appointed county attorney, and in 1881 C. Stayner, with W. R. Hamilton and R. Bayly, formed the board. C. J. Martin was appointed county judge August 8, *vice* E. P. Burnett, absent. In January, 1882, Ezra Brown, with Messrs. Stayner and Bayly, were commissioners; Louis F. Fryar, clerk, and J. P. Nixon,

sheriff. Of the commissioners, Bayly was the only one who went through the vicissitudes of county seat wars and still held that office. In June of this year the tax levy was made—6½ mills county general; 3 mills road; 3 mills bridge, and ½ mill insane hospital, or a total of 13 mills. The additional levy in the incorporated towns was as follows: Sutton, 8 mills; Edgar, 5 mills; Harvard, 10 mills, and Fairfield, 7 mills. The number of school districts was 70, the levy running from 3½ to 25 mills. In November the names of members of Company B were stricken from the list of poll-tax payers, and in December the contract for removing the old county jail from Sutton to the poor farm was sold to B. H. Corwin for \$49.99, and the offer of Sutton village to pay \$125 for the building rejected. In 1883 J. M. Farley, William Newton and C. Stayner were commissioners; the county bridge and road taxes amounted to 11½ mills per dollar; the additional levy for Harvard was 9 mills, for Fairfield and Sutton, 8 mills, and for Edgar 5 mills. Of the 70 school districts taxes were levied in all except numbers 5, 22 and 33. In September the question of township organization was ordered to be submitted to the people on November 6, that year. The vote denied the proposition, and Messrs. Newton, Farley and Fred Grosshaus formed the new board of commissioners. E. P. Burnett was elected judge; G. F. Dickson, treasurer, and E. G. Groff, surveyor.

In November, 1884, the question of selling Block 24, in the town of Sutton, and with it the old court house, was voted upon. The property was ordered to be sold at auction in April, 1885.

John B. Dinsmore was appointed commissioner of Clay County, to exhibit products of Clay County at New Orleans. In January, 1885, Joseph Myer took Commissioner Newton's place. In August, 1885, a new wind-mill and tower were ordered to be erected in place of the old mill and tower, said to be broken and useless. In January, 1886, the estimated expenditures for the year, for general, road, bridge and insane hospital purposes, were placed at \$32,000. The tax levy made in June amounted to 10 mills per dollar; while an additional levy of 8 mills was made in Fairfield and Edgar, and a special lot tax in Harvard. At this time the judgment of

the supreme court in the case of forcing the payment of \$100 in 10 per cent bonds, issued by original school district No. 22, Sections 27, 28, 33 and 34, Township 5, Range 7, was discussed. A special assessment of 15 mills was made on the two first named sections, and 14 mills on the last numbered sections. On July 28 an election was ordered in School Creek, Sutton, Lewis, Lone Tree and Fairfield precincts, to vote bonds to the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad Company. The petition was signed by fifty-six tax payers, and the vote was ordered to be recorded September 2. At this time Sutton petitioned to have an election on the question of issuing \$20,000 bonds. School Creek gave 129 votes for and 1 contra; Sutton, 352 for and 1 contra; Lone Tree, 187 for and 24 contra; Lewis, 132 for and 35 contra; Fairfield, 305 for and 88 contra. Spring Ranche, Lincoln, Inland and Harvard precincts petitioned for elections on a similar question affecting the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, and gave almost a unanimous vote in favor of the proposition. Francis Abbey, with Messrs. Farley and Meyer, were commissioners in 1887.

In June, 1887, a county, bridge, road and insane tax of 19 mills was levied, with 7 mills on Lone Tree, Fairfield, Spring Ranche and Glenville (originally forming Little Blue), to meet indebtedness on bonds of September 9 and October 1, 1873, in accordance with writ of supreme court, issued November 24, 1886. The tax to provide interest on railroad bonds in the several precincts was as follows: Fairfield, 5 mills; Lone Tree, Lewis and Sutton, $3\frac{1}{2}$ mills; School Creek and Lewis, 2-2-5 mills; Lone Tree, 2-4-5 mills; Sutton, 2-9-10 mills; Fairfield, 4 mills, and School Creek 2 mills. Special assessments were also made in Sutton and Harvard for the purpose of constructing sidewalks, together with a 10 mill tax on Clay Centre and Fairfield, and 3 mills on Harvard (villages) to meet interest on bonds. A village tax of $9\frac{1}{4}$ mills on Sutton; 8 mills on Harvard and 10 mills on Edgar was also authorized, and a levy for school purposes ranging from 3 to 25 mills made on the seventy-two of the seventy-three school districts then organized, together with special levy in six of the districts to meet bonds and interests on bonds. In April, 1888, Commissioner

Abbey resigned, and Fred Grosshaus was chosen to represent the First district. The levy was fixed at 10 mills for general and other purposes, including 7-10 mill to meet judgment in favor of Young in the matter of court house; the interest and sinking fund tax, on the townships granting railroad aid, was heavy, and a special levy of 7 mills was made on Spring Ranche to meet judgment of court. The levy for the villages reached 23-6-10 mills in the case of Edgar; Harvard, 11 mills; Sutton, 7 mills, and 10 mills for Clay Centre and Fairfield. On August 20, 1888, J. B. Dinsmore and 137 others petitioned the board to submit the question of township organization to the people in November, and an order was made in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners, and on November 21, the first meeting of the board of supervisors was held; Ezra Brown was chosen president. The names given to the Congressional townships April 19, 1875, were retained except in the case of Township 7, Range 8, changed from Scott to Inland; committees were appointed and rules for the government of the board adopted. Clinton Davis was appointed superintendent of poor farm.

The names of the supervisors elected in November, 1889, are given in the political chapter. In January this board authorized the employment of expert accountants to examine the books of the treasurer who filled the office prior to Mr. Walter's time. Messrs. Palmquist and Gratz were employed at \$12 per day, and are now (February, 1890) engaged in the work of auditing. The county is practically free from debt, and warrants are paid upon presentation to the treasurer.

The first record of the district court of Clay County dates back to May 16, 1873, when Sheriff Kearney and Clerk Brown opened court in the usual form. Judge Gantt's letter stating: "The Legislature having made some confusion in amending the act fixing terms of court in this district, adjourn court till Friday, May 23, 1873, at which time I will be there to hold your court." In accordance with this instruction court was adjourned to the day named. On May 23 Judge Gantt was present, and the first grand jury was impanelled: Daniel Cronin, W. F. Guthrie, William Todd, G. T. Warren, C.

M. Turner, R. N. Brown, Richard Bayly, Leroy S. Winters, Louis N. Bryant, J. Rowley, F. Northrop, Joel Longstreth, T. Weed, R. S. Balliett, George W. Bemis and I. N. Clark. A committee of the bar on examination of applicants for admission to the bar was then appointed. This committee comprised H. W. Gray, A. J. Weaver and J. D. Hayes. On their report W. H. Mitchell, H. C. Griffith and Jones M. McCall were admitted. The first suit tried here was that entitled Percey Reed *vs.* J. R. Maltby. Judgment was rendered for \$384.22. This was followed by Jordan & Ruffner *vs.* Robbins & Marthis, Peck & Weston *vs.* Cheeney & Farner, and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company *vs.* Clay County. The first criminal case was that of the State *vs.* Lorenzo Snow, for assault and battery, tried by B. F. Hockett, Ezra Brown, P. H. Manchester, Isaiah Alley, S. C. Sloat, A. Hardy, J. M. Ramsey, A. B. Smith, E. E. Lake, Alex. Weston, A. M. Lathrop and J. F. Sawtell, the first petit jury. Snow was sentenced to pay \$10 and all costs, and to be held in Fillmore County jail until such sums were paid.

The indictment of Daniel A. Smith for assault with intent to kill came next. He was next indicted for manslaughter, but the trial was continued. Dr. M. V. B. Clarke and Attorney H. W. Gray were appointed commissioners of insanity.

The second term of court was opened in May, 1874. Robert G. Brown and A. A. McCoy were admitted to the bar, and D. G. Hull, W. H. Morris and R. G. Brown were appointed a committee to examine future applicants for admission. The first petition for divorce was presented by Charles J. Martin, followed by E. G. Glazier, Susan Dunnell, Hosea W. Gray and Charles Church, who based the cause of action on the desertion by or continued absence of the defendants. William A. Farner, E. H. White and George W. Bemis were admitted to the bar. The first declaration of citizenship was made at this session, by John W. Price, who came to the United States with his father when a child.

In February, 1875, a special term of court was held. Marion S. Edgington and I. J. Starrbuck were admitted as members of the bar. A few petitions for divorces were presented; the trial of D. A.

Smith was continued, and a number of indictments for selling liquor without license and for gaming returned. The injunction suit entered by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company against the commissioners was decided in favor of the latter, and the railroad company mulcted in costs. Joseph S. Le Hew was admitted to the bar. In June, 1876, Judge S. B. Pound presided at the court house in Sutton. The term was given up to civil business, of which foreclosures of mortgages formed a large part. A forgery case, and the trials of Sorgenson and Masterson for unnameable offenses, occupied some time; while the trial of D. A. Smith resulted in a verdict of not guilty.

The fall term of 1876 was opened October 2, by Judge A. J. Weaver. A number of persons were admitted to citizenship; the effort to have school taxes equitably adjusted between the county and Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company was successful, but the company had the tax for mill bonds perpetually enjoined.

The summer term of 1887 commenced May 30; A. L. Lemont, of Wisconsin, was permitted to practice here, also S. H. Sedgewick. The business was entirely of a civil character as was also the calendar presented in November of that year.

On May 20, 1878, Judge Gaslin opened court in the Odd Fellows Hall, at Sutton. James R. Candy was indicted for assaulting Edmund Coen, but his trial was continued to the next term, when a jury returned a verdict of not guilty. T. A. Barbour was admitted to the bar. In November Candy was subjected to a second trial, found guilty and sentenced to a one year's term in State's prison.

In May, 1879, Judge Weaver presided. The suit of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company against the commissioners was successful, in that the court decided that the taxes complained of were illegal, except in the amount of \$3,000, and the defendants were enjoined from collecting the taxes of 1875, except such sum of \$3,000. In November Frank A. Swezey was admitted to the bar, and also George W. Lienbocker. In November, 1880, S. G. Wilcox and R. W. Christy were admitted to the bar, and an indictment against James Moore, a negro, for an attempt to murder Johanna

Donohue was returned; indictments were also returned against John Urbaur, for an attempt to kill Henry Krann. Both were found guilty. Urbaur was sentenced to a three years' term, and Moore to a twelve years' term in the penitentiary; while the comparatively innocuous horse stealer, Foreman, received six years' imprisonment. B. C. Oyler, Arthur Williams and F. W. Burdick were admitted to the bar in May, 1881, and E. W. Lewis in November. Andres M. Anderson was indicted for murder (poisoning John Johnson); a jury of whom H. J. Grant was foreman, returned a verdict of "not guilty" in May, 1882, and the prisoner was discharged.

A good deal of the time of the court in 1882 was given to the admission of residents to United States citizenship, and not a little to petitions for divorce. A few indictments for horse stealing were presented and several for illegal sale of liquor. The injunction suit entered by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, to restrain the commissioners of Clay County from collecting court house and jail tax (\$619.53), was successful, and the tax was declared illegal by Judge Morris. In May, 1883, J. L. Epperson and C. J. Martin were admitted members of the bar; in October, 1884, H. H. Hendee was admitted, and in May, 1885, J. B. Cessna, of the supreme court bar, was admitted to the bar of this district; Charles K. Hart of the New York bar was also admitted. The indictment for murder against John Taylor was presented at this term, and in May, 1886, an indictment against William Taylor was returned. A verdict of "not guilty" was returned in each case. The boys were subsequently indicted for injuring fences and other property. In May, 1887, the liquor cases were presented in number, and petitions for divorce or for modification of former petitions, helped to swell the volume of civil business. In October, 1887, information for the murder of Fred Dickinson was entered against August Mentz. He was found guilty of murder in the second degree, October 26, 1887, by a jury of whom George E. Birge was foreman, and was sentenced to imprisonment for twelve years, to be kept in solitary confinement on July 19 of each year. E. E. Hairgrove, C. J. Bills and Morris H.

Pope were admitted to the bar May 15, 1888; a year later H. N. Hairgrove and Edward P. Mitchell were admitted. The officers of the court at the close of 1889 were judge, Hon. W. H. Morris; county attorney, J. L. Epperson; reporter, S. A. Searle; clerk, J. E. Wheeler; sheriff, E. D. Davis. The members of the bar were J. L. Epperson, R. G. Brown, B. F. McLoney, E. E. Hairgrove, E. A. Mitchell, T. A. Barbour, S. W. Christy, T. H. Matters, W. P. Shockey, Charles Epperson, William M. Clark, L. P. Crouch, L. G. Hurd, W. S. Prickett, G. W. Bemis, E. P. Burnett, M. S. Edgington, H. M. Pope, W. M. Hairgrove, Hartigan & Albright.

The law circle of Sutton, up to 1882, included Robert G. Brown, who settled here in 1871. He tried the first law suit in this county before Judge J. R. Maltby, November 2, 1871, the case being that of James S. Schermerhorn *vs.* David P. Jayne, and the fee was \$10. He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention, held at Cincinnati in June, 1876. Hosea W. Gray, who settled here May 4, 1871, was also concerned in this law suit. He formed a partnership with A. A. McCoy in March, 1874; J. S. Le Hew was admitted in 1875, John E. Bagley began practice September 4, 1874, and E. H. White in May, 1874. He came here in July, 1873, from York, Neb., where he established the York Monitor. He was interested in the Times and Globe. G. W. Bemis was also here, while J. L. and W. F. Stone settled here August 1, 1879.

On March 30, 1885, Herbert H. Hyde, Rees T. Rees, John Llewellyn, David Burnett, George Van Gilder and Harvey Barnhart were brought to trial for the lynching of Jones and Mrs. Taylor. Judge Burnett presided. Col. Dilworth and John D. Hayes, of Hastings, R. G. Brown, of Sutton, and T. H. Matters, of Harvard, represented the State; Messrs. Reagan, of Hastings, L. G. Hurd, of Harvard, and J. L. Epperson, of Fairfield, the defendants. Old Mrs. Jones, aged 66, was one of the principal witnesses, but the evidence was not sufficient to convict and so Judge Barnett declared the prisoners to be free. Clay Center was almost as full of people as was the court room, and the order of the court was received with cheers within and without.

The execution of Mrs. Elizabeth A. Taylor* and Tom Jones took place March 15, 1885. It appears that about 1 o'clock that morning a party of fifty men arrived at the sod-house ranche of old Mrs. Jones (four and one-half miles southeast of Spring Ranche Mills), mother of Tom and sister. A call was made on the inmates to evacuate the house, which, for a time was unheeded but was ultimately acceded to. A number of persons, including William Foster, or Texas Bill, Nelson Celley, N. C. Clark and one Ferrel presented themselves and were made prisoners, then came Tom Jones, Mrs. Taylor and Luther Wiggins, a boy herder, who came three weeks before from Hastings, so that old Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Taylor's child were the only persons left in the sod-house. The mob carried the persons about one-fourth of a mile from the building and made an attempt to extort a confession from them. Mrs. Taylor is said to have acknowledged that her brother hired a man to burn Llewellyn's barn. The crowd marched the prisoners to the bridge over the Blue, near the sod-house, where Mrs. Taylor and Jones prayed loudly in the Welsh language for some minutes, when they were led under the bridge and hanged. The other prisoners were brought to the house of R. T. Rees, where N. C. Clark was ordered to leave the country at once, and the others told it would be well for them to leave also.

In the morning Nelson Celley returned to the sod-house to feed the stock and saw the bodies dangling from the bridge. Later the boy, Barker, was sent out to give information, when Joseph Meehan, John Quinn, Ed Young and Ed Rollins repaired to the scene. Mr. Meehan ordered the bodies to be left there until the arrival of the coroner. A jury, composed of J. C. Ward, Jacob Eller, Cal Earnest, James Leitch, H. M. Goldsmith and M. Wiliman, with Jesse F. Eller, coroner, found that death ensued from hanging, the act being done by persons unknown. The ropes used were ordinary mule halters. Evidently the ropes were placed round the victims' necks while standing on the ground, then drawn across the stringers of the bridge and pulled upon by the executioners until the man and woman were strangled.

In former pages references are made to the mur-

ders perpetrated in this county, and the action of the court in the trial of the alleged murderers related. In the pioneer chapter and in the pages devoted to the cities of the county the many stirring encounters with the Indians and deaths resulting therefrom, as well as from accident, are referred to.

During the winter of 1883 Mark Percival was frozen to death while under the influence of liquor. The widow brought suit against one of the persons who sold her husband liquor, and in the fall of 1885 a verdict for \$2,500 was given, the trial taking place before Judge Morris, of Clay Center.

The murder of John Roberts, of Spring Ranche, was perpetrated January 8, 1885. The first reports of this crime credited it to the Taylors, as Mrs. Taylor, a Welsh woman, threatened the Welsh man, Roberts, with punishment if he dared to take any timber from an eighty-acre tract which she claimed on the Blue.

Elijah Smith, an old resident of Logan Township, while engaged in burning an old straw stack, was burned to death in 1885.

Mrs. Joseph Warner, who resided five miles south of Edgar, was poisoned by aconite in November, 1885.

The railroad disaster at Deweese occurred October 19, 1886. It appears a construction train backing down to Deweese, carrying ninety-five men to dinner, struck a bull near the house of George Sheppard. The cars were thrown from the track into the draw twenty feet, killing six men and wounding several. The names of the killed were: R. H. Marvin, hotel-keeper at Deweese; George Bufke, St. Louis; Dennis O'Connor, Weston, Mo.; Dennis Hamilton, Michigan; Robert Collins, England, and Thomas Kelly. Eight others suffered severe injuries.

John Harvonic committed suicide in November, 1884.

Fred Ronzo committed suicide in September, 1887, while imprisoned at Clay Center, pending his trial for attempting to kill his wife.

James McCullough committed suicide by stabbing in May, 1889. The scene of this tragedy is eight miles northeast of Glenville.

* Mrs. Taylor and others were charged with the murder of John Roberts, of Spring Ranche, in January, 1885.

Jesse Gordon, the eight year old son of Charles Gordon, was buried in the corn hopper at Minor's elevator and smothered to death.

The accident at Sutton, October 13, 1887, resulted in the death of the eight year old son of George Conn. The boy attempted to jump on a moving train, but falling had one arm and both legs cut off instantly, as if by a knife. Before he could be rescued he was struck by a bolt and killed.

W. R. Prosser was killed by the cars at Hansen in March, 1887.

In August, 1889, a three year old son of T. G. Dumke wandered into a field of sowed corn which his father was engaged in cutting down. The child was hidden in the edge of the thick heavy growth, so that the father drove by, the unfeeling mower cutting off the boy's feet as readily as it cut down the corn. A sister sent in search of the little one found him covered in the stalks, and gave the alarm. Dr. Ray was summoned, but could not save the boy.

The first election for Clay County was held October 14, 1871. A. K. Marsh, P. O. Norman and A. A. Corey received 55 votes each for county commissioners, and F. Shaw, M. L. Latham and G. W. Langford, 33 votes each, while C. H. Calkins received 2 votes. The contest for the position of county clerk was between F. M. Brown, who received 54, and F. M. Davis, who received 33 votes. J. Hollingsworth and J. C. Sloat received a similar vote for the office of treasurer; for probate judge, J. R. Maltby received 55, L. J. Kearney, 16, and E. Brown, 12. P. T. Kearney received 59 votes for sheriff and B. R. Royce, 28; R. S. Fitzgerald 58 for surveyor and G. W. Noble, 33; James Schemmerhorn 55 for school superintendent and L. N. Bryant, 33; J. Stienmetz 55 for coroner and A. S. Willis, 33. For judges of election, R. L. Gau, C. H. Calkins and L. French received 56, and L. Thayer, J. Flynn and E. Brown, 33. Thomas T. Gau and H. B. Hull, received each 56 votes, and D. W. Evans, 33, for clerks of elections. There were 56 votes cast in favor of Sutton as the county seat; 24 in favor of the geographical center; 8 in favor of Section 34, Township 8, Range 7, and 1 in favor of Section 8, Township 5, Range 8.

The elections of 1872 show 254 votes for S. A. Strickland and two others, and 31 votes for Edward Creighton and two others, for presidential electors; L. Crounse received 194 and J. F. Wanner, 64, for Congress; Henry Koenig, 192 and F. W. Holliman, 64, for State treasurer; N. K. Griggs, 195, and I. W. Vore, 63, for Senator of Twelfth district; J. E. Cramer, 193, for representative, Thirteenth district; A. Tracy, 147, and R. G. Brenn, 106, for treasurer; M. L. Latham, 169, and D. M. Nettleton, 79, commissioner.

The elections of October, 1873, resulted as follows: E. P. Burnett, 375, Mark Percival, 128, candidates for probate judge; F. M. Davis, 306, and A. Tracy, 227, for treasurer; F. M. Brown, 280, and R. L. Gau, 230, for clerk; R. Bayly, 266; and W. R. Stephens, 249, for commissioner, long term; Ezra Brown, 317, and O. G. Peck, 205, commissioner, short term; J. T. Fleming, 308, and J. P. Scott, 154, surveyor; J. B. Dinsmore, 304, and Daniel Cronin, 224, sheriff; Martin Clark, 390, and P. Nagle, 143, coroner; D. W. Garver, 390, and J. S. Schemmerhorn, 135, school superintendent.

In 1874, Lorenzo Crounse received 378, and J. W. Savage, 168, for Congress; while Patrick O'Hawes received 378, for the office of contingent congressman; Silas Garber received 379, and A. Tuxbury, 164, for governor; N. K. Griggs, 375, and R. P. Stein, 170, for Senator Twelfth district; Albinus Nance, 374, and G. H. Peebles, 168, for representative Thirteenth district; C. M. Turner, 319, and George Stewart, 211, for commissioner. The question of holding a constitutional convention received 292 votes, and was opposed by one.

In April, 1875, M. W. Wilcox was given 317, and W. S. Randall* 255 votes, candidates for representing the district in convention. On August 14, that year, 1,092 votes were cast (2 scattering), on the question of re-locating the county seat, and on September 24, 1,210 votes were cast, as follows: August election—Sutton, 313; Harvard, 349; Fairfield, 282; Clay Center, 146. September election—Sutton, 497; Harvard, 391; Fairfield, 322.

* There were thirty-six votes given for W. S. Randall in Leicester precinct, which were not reported in time to be canvassed.

The general elections of October, 1875, show 725 votes for A. J. Weaver for judge of First district; 572 for J. W. Eller, and 156 for W. O. Hamlin for district attorney; 786 for and 3 against new constitution; 773 for and 3 against article relating to seat of government, and a similar vote on the article allowing elections to express their preferences for United States Senator. E. P. Burnett received 551, J. S. Le Hew, 203, and H. W. Short, 154 votes for county judge; Ezra Brown, 475, and Joseph Flick, 325 for commissioner; J. B. Dinsmore, 473; F. M. Brown, 194, and J. M. Ramsey, 109 votes for county clerk; F. M. Davis, 808 votes for treasurer; O. P. Alexander, 494; B. R. Royce, 275, and W. D. Aikens, 30, for sheriff; T. W. Brookbank, 782, and M. S. Edgington, 16, for superintendent of schools; M. S. Edgington, 652, and George Nuss, 92, for surveyor; and Martin Clark was elected coroner.

In October, 1876, the vote on re-location of county seat shows precisely the same figures as in September, 1875, for Sutton and Harvard, and 355 votes for Fairfield, or 32 above the number given in 1875.

The November elections of 1876 show 1,036 votes for A. H. Connor and two others; 341 for S. H. Calhoun and others, and 4 for H. L. Lally and others, presidential electors. For Congress, Frank Walsh received 991, Joseph Hollman, 344, and Marvin Warren, 43. Silas Garber and Paren England received the respective party vote for governor; F. M. Davis and Henry Grebe for land commissioner; John P. Maule and B. S. Malona for district attorney; Marcus W. Wilcox, 1,042, and Richard H. Wirts, 347 for Senator of Twenty-third district; James W. Small, 585, Algie S. Hill, 527, and F. W. Holman, 264 for representative of Twenty-third district; Julius O. Chase, 1,044, O. G. Peck, 356, representative Fifty-second district; W. S. Randall, 1,045, and Henry T. Hoyt, 353 for treasurer; Richard Bayly, 1,055, and C. H. Amey, 342 for commissioner Third district. The county seat re-location question was brought forward at this time, Harvard receiving 802, and Sutton 606 votes.

In November, 1877, Francis Northrop received 470, and George H. Vanduyne 354 for commis-

sioner; Ezra E. Howard, 580, and Joseph Flick, 300 for clerk; William S. Randall, 572, and John G. Glazier, 310 for treasurer; A. J. McPeak, 449, and George S. Alcorne, 416 for sheriff; E. P. Burnett, 663 for judge; William A. Gunn, 506, and John T. Fleming, 344 for surveyor; J. D. Newell, 597, and Dr. E. Brewer, 262 for superintendent of schools; Dr. Martin Clark, 575, and Uriah H. Hallick, 263 for coroner.

The election of 1878 shows 848 votes for E. K. Valentine and 301 for J. W. Davis, candidates for Congress, 845 for A. Nance, and 294 for T. B. Parker, governor; 911 for F. M. Davis, and 217 for James McCready, land commissioner; 630 for John P. Maule, and 485 for John Saxon for district attorney; 801 for John F. Coulter for senator, Twenty-third District; 845 for M. S. Price, representative Fifty-second District; 684 for H. A. Draper, and 474 for Melvin Estes, representative Twenty-third District; 835 for W. R. Hamilton, and 284 for M. Flynn, commissioner Second District.

In January, 1879, there were 239 votes for and 5 against the issue of bonds in Harvard precinct. On January 13, the vote on the re-location of county seat was recorded. Clay Center received 1,293, and Harvard 1,015. At this time 73 votes were given for the issue of county bonds, and 2,217 against such issue.

An election on the question of re-location of seat of justice was held February 24, 1879, when 1,376 votes were recorded for the center east half of the northeast quarter of Section 1, Township 6, Range 7, and 561 for Harvard. There were 1,339 votes cast in favor of court house and jail tax, and 372 against such a tax.

On April 9, 1879, Clay Center received 1,376 and Harvard 1,106 votes in the matter of re-location of county seat. There were 1,339 votes recorded for court house tax and 1,117 votes against it.

The vote of Edgar precinct, August 25, 1879, on the question of issuing \$12,000 bonds in aid of the Nebraska & Kansas City Railroad, was 148 for, and 18 against.

In November the now familiar "re-location" question was re-presented, Clay Center received 1,967, and Harvard 1,867 votes; A. J. Weaver re-

received 2,736, and W. P. Connor, 1,098 votes for judge of First district; R. Bayly received 2,488, and E. Brewer 1,213 votes for commissioner; W. J. Keller 2,257, and E. E. Howard 1,576, for clerk; D. T. Phillips 2,236, and A. B. Canfield 1,579, for clerk of district court; G. H. Van Dyne 2,461, and W. S. Randall 1,363, for treasurer; J. P. Nixon, 2,423, and C. A. Melvin 1,377, for sheriff; E. P. Burnett 2,686, and John Converse 1,101, for county judge; A. Y. Wright 2,724, and M. S. Edgington 1,038, for surveyor; I. D. Newell 2,668, and J. B. Royce 1,148, for superintendents of schools; George Nuss 2,383, and Martin Clark 1,433, for coroner.

The vote for presidential electors in 1880 was 1,517 for James Laird, 520 for James E. Boyd, and 62 for W. W. Connor. E. K. Valentine, James E. North and Allen Root received a party vote for Congress; Nance, Tipton and Williams for governor; Alexander, Johnson and Allen for secretary, and W. H. Morris, J. S. Le Hew and W. S. Prickett for district attorney. J. B. Dinsmore received 1,324, O. G. Peck, 642, and J. L. Epperson, 96 for senator, Twenty-third district; W. B. Gray, 1,516, H. H. Brown, 410, and D. McKay, 55 for representative, Fifty-second district; J. H. Case, 1,516, James M. Flynn, 486, and J. Mulligan, 57 for representative of Twenty-third district; Cyrus Stayner, 1,132, and Jacob Steinmetz, 808 for commissioner.

In 1881 Nels Anderson received 1,738 votes for representative of Fifty-second district, G. H. Van Dyne, 985, and J. E. Wheeler, 792, for treasurer; L. F. Fryar, 1,044, and J. P. Nelson, 736, for clerk; J. P. Nixon, 908, and T. R. Elder, 872, for sheriff; E. P. Burnett, 1,314, for judge; I. D. Newell, 1,056, and Mrs. W. A. Cornell, 701, for superintendent of schools; L. A. Varner, 1,295, and George S. Ward, 495, for surveyor; J. G. Nuss, 1,325, and L. J. Forney, 457, for coroner; Ezra Brown, 1,347, and C. A. Canfield, 433, for commissioner.

The vote of 1882 shows 970 for James W. Dawes, 312 for J. S. Morton, and 555 for E. P. Ingersoll, candidates for governor; 983 for W. H. Morris, and 852 for R. W. Sabin, district attorney; 968 for James Laird, 234 for F. A. Harmon, and 612 for S. V. Moore, Congress; 866 for Ezra Brown,

229 for Dwight Mordock, and 730 for J. L. Epperson, State Senator; 766 for D. M. Nettleton, 732 for E. E. Howard, 303 for F. C. Matteson, 263 for A. T. Gilchrist, 597 for A. M. Lathrop, 501 for Marion Hart, candidates for representatives; 1,501 for E. G. Groff, surveyor; 973 for James M. Farley, 312 for Richard Bayly, and 538, for M. A. Hancock, commissioner. The suffrage amendment was lost in this county.

In November, 1883, G. W. Bemis received 1,117, J. W. Eller, 599, and J. W. Boden, 13 votes for the office of district attorney; W. H. Morris, 1,113, and R. A. Batty, 627, for judge of district; George F. Dickson, 1,182, and J. P. Nixon, 552, for treasurer; L. F. Fryar, 1,189, and Henry Dalton, 549, for clerk; C. J. Martin, 1,202, and Charles Hjehn, 545, for clerk of court; J. R. Kidd, 1,133, and George Krell, 606, for sheriff; E. P. Burnett, 1,712, for county judge; A. A. Randall, 1,188, and Erwin Ramsey, 553, for superintendent of schools; E. G. Groff, 1,727, for surveyor; Jesse Eller, 1,159, and W. A. Ditson, 583, for coroner; Fred Grosshaus, 1,635, William Newton, 1,128, W. H. Hammond, 624, for commissioners of First and Second districts; for township organization 870, against such organization, 374.

The vote for governor in 1884, shows 1,677, for J. W. Dawes, 839 for J. S. Morton, and 103, for J. G. Miller; James Laird received 1,240 for Congress, and J. H. Stickel, 1,132; Ezra Brown, 1,701, and A. J. Orendorf, 450, for Senator; D. M. Nettleton, 1,727, Ezra E. Howard, 1,640, John M. Surrock, 827, and John Benson, 713, for representatives; Joseph Meyer, 1,565, D. Gotheridge, 425, and A. M. Lathrop, 475, for commissioner; Manford Savage, 1,699, and W. A. Hambel, 792, for district attorney. The vote cast for presidential electors was as follows: Patrick Hines and four others, 816; R. B. Harrington and four others, 1,679, and M. J. Garrett, and four others, 104 votes.

The elections of November, 1885, show 1,244 Republican, 547 Democratic, and 226 Prohibition votes, recorded for Richard Damsted, W. J. Cox and A. M. Lathrop, respectively, candidates for county judge; 1,158 for J. R. Kidd, 646 for Pat



Yours truly
G. W. Nettleton

rick E. Sullivan, and 203 for J. F. Pinkerton, candidates for sheriff; J. F. Eller received 1,204. W. J. Bacon, 577, and L. B. Edward, 204, for coroner; George F. Dickson, 1,269, L. T. Clark, 499, and J. E. Hopper, 247, for treasurer; E. G. Groff, 1,246, John Bonekemper, 560, and J. Worrick, 212, for surveyor; A. A. Randall, 1,265, and Chester Wright, 212, for superintendent of schools; L. F. Fryar, 1,282, D. R. Hughes, 548, and J. B. Sanderson, 195, for county clerk; Joseph Meyer, 1,183, H. C. Brown, 595, and C. E. Rockhill, 240, for commissioner of Second district; J. M. Farley, 1,195, John Campbell, 581, and George Iliff, 237, for commissioner Third district. At this time candidates for the office of register of deeds received the following votes: O. W. Birmingham, 1,195, E. D. Judd, 13, and John Buerman, 106. The nominations were made in good faith, but owing to error in the engrossing bill creating the office, the election was declared null and void.

The election of the question of granting aid to the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad Company was held on September 7, 1886. School Creek voted \$5,000 by 129 for, 1 contra; Sutton voted \$20,000 by 352 for, 12 contra; Lone Tree voted \$12,000 by 187 for, and 24 contra; Lewis voted \$8,000 by 132 for, 35 contra, and Fairfield voted \$20,000 by 305 for, and 88 contra.

The elections of November, 1886, show 1,137 votes for James Laird, 788 for William A. McKeighan, and 337 for C. S. Harrison, candidates for Congress; 1,430 for John M. Thayer, 636 for James E. North, and 276 for H. W. Hardy, gubernatorial candidates; 1,397 for Gilbert L. Laws, 645 for Richard Thompson, and 281 for E. J. O'Neill, candidates for State secretary. There were 1,069 votes received by R. G. Brown, 730 by E. C. Matson, and 483 by O. C. Hubbell, for senator of the Twenty-fourth district; 1,261 by W. S. Randall, 1,367 by William Newton, 668 by Henry Dalton, 680 by L. D. Hinies, 333 by E. T. Cassell, and 269 by A. Livingston, for representatives of the Forty-second district; B. F. McLoney received 1,359, William M. Clark, 666, and W. B. Gord, 281 for county attorney; Francis Abbey, 1,189; J. W. Hart, 792, and A. J. Davis, 331 for commissioner.

A scattering vote was cast for C. H. Van Wyck, James Laird and A. J. Weaver, showing preference for United States senator. The proposed amendment to the constitution relating to Legislative department received 1,259 votes, and was opposed by 82.

On March 26, 1887, the proposition by Spring Rancho to grant \$7,000 aid to the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad received 111 votes, while 52 opposed it. On April 12, 1887, Lincoln precinct gave 126 votes in favor of granting \$7,000 aid to the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad Company, and 22 against such aid; Harvard precinct voted \$25,000, by 290 votes for and 7 contra; Inland precinct voted \$10,000, by 93 for and 63 contra.

The elections of November, 1887, show 1,609 votes for W. H. Morris, and 284 for I. E. Vale, candidate for judge of the Fifth Judicial District. For county treasurer, William Walters received 1,304, Peter Griess, 886, and J. F. Johnson, 262; for clerk, L. F. Fryar received 1,581, H. S. Freeman, 618, and C. J. Scott, 245; for county clerk, J. E. Wheeler, 1,456, George S. Ward, 697, and J. A. Davis, 298; for sheriff, E. D. Davis, 1,465, J. P. Nixon, 764, Abbott Harly, 215; for county judge, W. H. Canfield, 1,531, J. Campbell, 633, and John W. Shirley, 281; for commissioner, Joseph Meyer, 1,198, M. V. Corey, 922, and A. M. Lathrop, 318; for superintendent of schools, J. N. Hursh, 1,170, Marion Thrasher, 1,050, and J. H. Stark, 234; for coroner, S. M. Elder, 1,520, George Krell, 637, and J. E. Spatz, 296; for surveyor, E. G. Groff, 1,536, J. J. Bonekemper, 626, and Chester Wright, 284.

The vote for presidential electors, in 1888, was 2,091 (R), 995 (D), 303 (P), and 12 (U L); for governor, John M. Thayer received 2,030 (R), John A. McLane, 1,060 (D), George E. Bigelow, 310 (P), and David Butler, 9 (U L); for Congress, James Laird received 1,931 (R), W. G. Hastings, 1,090 (D), and George Scott, 347 (P); for senator Twenty-fifth district, L. G. Hurd received 2,040 (R), George H. Van Dyne, 1,023 (D), and W. R. Smith, 314 (P); for representatives Forty-second district, S. W. Christy and C. W. Bortis, 2,058 (R), L. L. John-

son and John G. Glazier, 1,013 (D). J. E. Spatz and L. T. Van Cleve, 320 (P); for commissioner First district, A. C. Beck, 2,060 (R), N. A. Overturf, 997 (D), and L. B. Elword, 303 (P); for commissioner Third district, Jesse F. Eller, 2,065 (R), S. McKelvie, 1,014 (D), and L. H. Ingersoll, 307 (P); for county attorney, J. L. Epperson, 2,131 (R), and W. M. Clark, 1,023, (D). The preference vote for United State Senator was given William G. Ollinger.

The vote taken in November, 1888, on the subject of township organization was as follows:

Townships.	For.	Contra.	Townships.	For.	Contra.
School Creek.....	92	40	Sheridan.....	65	17
Lincoln.....	145	—	Marshall.....	38	69
Harvard.....	376	25	Lone Tree.....	109	124
Liechester.....	173	—	Glenville.....	58	33
Inland.....	85	12	Spring Ranch.....	35	76
Lynn.....	144	8	Fairfield.....	312	49
Lewis.....	129	18	Edgar.....	295	16
Sutton.....	321	56	Logan.....	107	20

The total vote cast was 3,947, of which number 2,484 were cast for organization, and 563 against such organization. The supervisors elected at this time (in the order of townships given) were James Marsh, John Iliff, Ezra Brown, A. C. Fisher, Charles Schuck, William Newton, M. S. Price, William Griess, Ferd. Mohuikie, A. P. Randall, B. W. Campbell, E. T. Hueston, D. W. Evans, B. R. Royce, Cyrus Stayner and J. D. Parrish. This constituted the first board of supervisors, the organization of which body is noticed in the transactions of the commissioners.

The elections of 1889 show 1,593 votes for Gilbert L. Laws (R), 919 for C. D. Carper (D), and 243 for C. E. Bentley (P), candidates for Congress; 1,290 for B. H. Dunn (R), 1,266 for John G. Glazier (D), and 203 for A. B. Smith (P), candidates for treasurer; 1,624 for H. E. Stein (R), 894 for Nicholas Ochsner (D), and 239 for H. B. Rousey (P), clerk; 1,707 for E. D. Davis (R), 812 for H. J. Hoyt (D), and 229 for C. S. Detweiler (P), sheriff; there were 1,645 votes cast for W. H. Canfield (R), 848 for T. H. Spicer (D), and 255 for A. M. Lathrop (P), candidates for county judge; 1,643 for J. N. Hursh (R), 808 for Caleb D. Hume (D), and 308 for A. B. Byram (P), for superintendent of schools; S. M. Elder (R), received 1,658 votes, Dr. Dodd (D), 840, and Dr. L. C. Holmes (P), 246 for coroner; E.

G. Groff (R), 1,672, and Charles Shepperd (P), 257, for surveyor.

The supervisors elected were J. E. Marsh, of School Creek; (Eldorado, new name of Lincoln, held over); William Schwenk, Harvard; C. S. Bradley, Harvard Township; (Liechester held over); Charles Schwenk, Inland; (Lynn held over); M. S. Price, Lewis; H. S. Sanders, Sutton; P. H. Schwab, Sutton City; Ezra Brown, Harvard City; Josiah Everett, Sheridan; (Marshall held over); B. W. Campbell, Lone Tree; (Glenville held over); D. W. Evans, Spring Ranch; Jacob Shively, Fairfield City; (Fairfield Township held over); William M. Rousey, Edgar; W. R. Fuller, Edgar City, and C. A. Bush, Logan.

From returns of the election held February 20, 1879, the re-location of the county seat was declared by the commissioners to be at Clay Center, being so determined from the vote cast. This declaration gave rise to the town of Clay Center. In accordance with an order of the commissioners, most of the county officers went to that place, but, as was afterward determined, the movement was too hasty. Much dissatisfaction existed as to the determination of the result of the election; the vote was canvassed, and, in obedience to a mandamus of the supreme court, the votes of precincts, which had been thrown out on the ground of fraud, were ordered to be counted, and it was found that Clay Center was not the county seat. The officials were then obliged to pack up their records and documents and betake themselves back to Sutton. On November 7, the next election was held, and, by the legal vote of the people of the county, the seat of government was fixed at Clay Center. On the first of the new year, the offices were re-transferred to Clay Center. A jail-house was immediately afterward built, costing \$2,200. This is a single story frame, the main part being 24x38 feet, to which adjoins on the rear a wing, 20x40 feet, in which are the cells, which are frame, lined with steel cages. The court house, the building and acceptance of which have hitherto been noticed, is a large two-story brick structure, 47x64 feet in dimensions, and is capped with a large and substantial dome. The upper story embraces the court-room, which extends

in length the entire width of the building, and is forty feet wide, adjoining which are the jury, judge's and witness rooms, while in the first story are located the county offices, which are constructed with fire-proof vaults, and the treasurer's office, supplied with a burglar-proof safe. The proposed cost of the building was \$11,000, while the actual cost, when completed, was \$22,000, including furniture, fixtures, "etc.," as appears on the statement submitted by the contractor.



CHAPTER XX.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS—THE PIONEER CHAMPION—HARVARD JOURNALISTS—SUTTON JOURNALISTS—FAIRFIELD JOURNALISTS AND PERIODICALS—CLAY CENTER JOURNALISTS—THE DEWEESSE RECORDER—EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS—PUBLIC SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, ETC.—STATISTICS—COUNTY SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS—PROFESSIONAL ROLL, ETC.—MEMOIRS OF WAR—MILITIA COMPANIES—
ROSTER OF VOLUNTEERS.

“So likewise a hovel will serve for a room
To stack up the grain when harvest shall come.
And he that can rear up a pig in his house
Hath cheaper his bacon and sweeter his souce.”



T seldom rains but it pours over those great prairies. A look over the census statistics will be sufficient to confirm this conclusion, for after the tide of immigration began to flow over the land in 1870-71, it never ebbed, but continued to grow deeper, year by year, until the county was literally covered with substantial farmers and the villages filled with enterprising citizens. Among the pioneers came the type-setter. He came to grow up with, and aid in building up the interests of, the new country, and he succeeded in the last named object. He was a martyr pioneer. He felt like Macdonough, the poet of the Press Association, who wrote as follows:

“Then we can wake the echoes of these prairies.

Round to antipodean lands or waters:
And make the gaping world ask us, where is

Nebraska, fairest of Columbia's daughters?
Where Indians erewhile lifted pale-face hair, is

Now for progress and intelligence, headquarters,
And all the boons that our young State possesses,
Owe their appearance to the mighty presses.”

The Harvard Champion was established in 1872, as the pioneer journal of the county, by Julius Eaton, who removed the office at the close of the year. Prior to this time, however, a manuscript news-sheet was issued by the L. O. G. T., G. W. Bemis being a contributor.

The Harvard Leader was issued in the spring of 1873, by Webster Eaton, and continued publication for seven months.

The Harvard Advocate was founded in January, 1874, by W. A. Connell.

Although a man of some ability as an editor, yet he, like many of his craft, loved ardent drink, and gave too much of his time to spirits to be successful. Losing his patronage, mainly on account of his intemperate habits, his paper, after an existence of about two years, “passed in its types,” and the editor emigrated to other fields of labor. After Connell had taken his departure, he was succeeded in the enterprise of journalism by D. T. Sherman, who established a paper in the fall of 1876, called the Harvard Sentinel. This sheet, however, like all the others, had a somewhat limited existence, but enjoyed a reasonable share of prosperity. After running for about two years, he removed the material to Sterling, Neb. Capt. G. W. Limbocker purchased

the Sentinel subscription list, and had already begun the publication of the Clay County Journal. The Journal has already had an existence of over three years, and is now in successful operation, and promises to maintain prolonged continuance, being liberally patronized and supported by an intelligent and reading public.

The journal was issued March 18, 1879, by G. W. Limbocker, and on December 13, 1889, reached the number 613 or No. 41 of volume XI.

The Courier was established by Southworth & Colvin, January 1, 1885.

The Sutton Times was issued June 20, 1873, by Wellman & Brakeman, followed by Wellman & White, then Wellman Bros., and in 1886 Frank E. Wellman was sole owner. He moved the office to York and established the York Republican.

The Clay County Herald was issued June 21, 1873, by J. M. Sechler and W. J. Cowan, and continued publication until the fall of that year.

Clay County Globe was established July 14, 1875, by F. M. Comstock and J. S. LeHew. On October 1, that year, E. H. White became proprietor. He sold to I. D. Evans, who, in 1880, merged the name into the Sutton Register. The Globe was a semi-weekly Republican Journal.

The Democrat was founded February 1, 1884, by Steinmetz & Brainard. Brainard's interest was sold to W. A. Nelson, and he with Mr. Steinmetz published this journal until 1889, after the latter was appointed receiver at McCook.

The Nebraska Citizen was published at Sutton in 1884, by Mr. Locke, but its life was of short duration.

The Register was established February 20, 1880, by I. D. Evans. On June 3, 1886, Mr. Evans issued his valedictory. In this paper he says, "For more than six years, each week, without a single skip, it has appeared under the management now retiring." F. M. Brown issued his salutary. The latter was then a resident of fifteen years standing. A notice from the Register of July 15, 1886, gives a very clear idea of the estimation in which the immigrants were held: "Monday last about forty-six Russians, big and little, old and young, with their bags and baggage, were congregated on the platform

at the depot, and when No. 2 came in they took their departure for other pastures. There was scarcely a dry eye in Sutton when the train pulled out; but our modesty prevented us from inquiring whether those eyes were wet with the tears of sorrow or joy. We hope those people will come back to see us after we are dead."

The Sutton Advertiser was established August 26, 1887, by J. W. Johnson, with William Nance as foreman. In September J. L. Paschal took that position. The Advertiser is a Republican weekly newspaper with a circulation of 900 or 1,000.

The Fairfield News was started in Fairfield on June 7, 1877, by J. H. Case and O. G. Maury. The first issue of the paper was made on the 7th of that month. The establishment of the paper was attended with the most liberal encouragement of the citizens of the town, who guaranteed for it a list of 300 subscribers, eight columns of advertisements, and a bonus of \$300. The paper was a six column quarto size, Republican in politics, and had a circulation of about 350. After about two years' operation, Case retired from the concern, and it was controlled by Maury for about one year, when it was sold to J. W. Small. G. M. Prentice was editor of the Fairfield News in October, 1883.

I. E. Beery, who in January, 1885, settled at Fairfield and assumed editorial charge of the News, died August 12, 1886. A. R. Degge took his position at once, and carried on the News until Mr. Randall assumed the editorship. On May 5, 1887, W. S. Randall issued his salutatory as editor of the News. On January 2, 1890, he wrote as follows: "With this issue The News enters upon its fourteenth volume, being the oldest paper in Clay County. There were other papers in the county before the News was established, but they have removed to other parts. There are papers in the county that have been under one management longer than the News, but we claim for it the oldest in the county."

The Fairfield Herald was founded in December, 1881, by J. L. Oliver. On account of the opinions promulgated by the News on county seat and local matters, much dissatisfaction and enmity was aroused against it by those holding adverse opinions. So

far were these petty disagreements carried, that in opposition to the News a second paper was begun by a stock company composed of a number of the citizens of the town, to which they gave the name of the Fairfield Herald, the company being known as the Herald Publishing Company. The capital stock of the concern is \$1,000, and is divided into 100 shares of \$10 each. The company is operated by the thirty-seven stockholders, who meet quarterly and choose an editor, two assistants and a business manager. With the first starting W. T. Newcomb was chosen editor, and the present editor is S. G. Wilcox.

The Fairfield Methodist was issued from the News office by Rev. C. E. Lewis in September, 1886. This was a monthly journal, but continued only six months.

The Call, a college monthly, was issued in 1888 from the News office by Messrs. N. M. Graham, William Hilton, A. C. Epperson and L. W. Smith. The latter was editor. The last number was issued in March, 1888.

The Fairfield Saturday Call was published in April, 1889, by Maupin and Burkhalter.

In November, 1875, F. M. Comstock established a journal at Edgar; but the office fell into the hands of W. J. Waite, and altogether the publication was not carried on over one year. One night the office was entered and the material carried away.

The Edgar Leader was founded in 1877 by H. A. Day and C. E. Keith. In 1878 S. T. Caldwell and E. E. Howard bought the material, which they sold to M. J. Hull. With this material he began the Review in May, 1878.

The World was established in October, 1886, by Shafe Kautzman. After a little while the office was sold to Smith & Ward, who established the Gazette at Clay Center. He then purchased the Post, and changed the name to the Post-World. After a few months Dr. Casterline became owner, and published it as the Post. During the early part of the campaign of 1888 the World was revived as a daily paper at Edgar by Mr. Kautzman, who equipped the office anew. This he moved to Superior, Neb., in August of that year. He conducted the Daily World there until the spring of 1889. In February,

1890, a report was current that Mr. Kautzman intended establishing a new journal at Edgar.

The Edgar Post was established March 5, 1885, by Dr. T. E. Casterline, who is now owner. Shortly after he sold a half interest to Alfred Bates, who removed to Davenport, Neb., leaving the Doctor sole owner until the World was established, when the offices were consolidated under the title of Post-World. Later the office became Dr. Casterline's property, when the name World was dropped. In July, 1889, W. H. Gates and F. N. Coleman leased the office. On January 1, 1890, Mr. Gates returned to the service of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, and now Mr. Coleman is in charge.

The Edgar Times was founded in May, 1878, under the name Review, by M. J. Hull. The journal subsequently passed into the hands of Kautzman & Barrington, who in July, 1884, sold the office to H. G. Lyon and F. L. Harman. On January 1, 1885, Mr. Harman retired, and in November, 1885, W. B. Good became partner, and continued so until June 18, 1886, when he moved to California. With the exception of the short terms of Messrs. Harman & Good's connection with the Times, Mr. Lyon has been owner continuously since 1884. In May, 1885, Rebecca Dare took charge of the woman's department of the Times.

The Clay County Call was issued at Edgar by Kautzman & Barrington, December 25, 1884. It continued publication only a few months, when the office was sold to Dr. Casterline.

The Clay Centre Citizen was established in February, 1881, by W. A. Connell, who carried it, at a loss, for six months, and left the place, condemning all but the county officials, who, he stated, were the only citizens who had any self respect or intelligence. The office was sold to a stock company, who continued publication for a short time, and in November, 1881, sold the material, which was moved at once to Fairfield and used in the office of the Fairfield Herald.

The Sun was founded August 22, 1884, by W. L. Palmer, as a Republican journal. It is a very well conducted journal, and the official paper of the county.

The Democratic Publishing Company was organized in December, 1888, and purchased the Gazette office at Clay Center. The organized members of the company were F. C. Matteson and F. J. Hoerger, of Sutton, W. T. Perry and G. A. Herzog, of Harvard, L. L. Johnson, of Inland, J. G. Glazier and Otis Holmes, of Edgar, S. R. Barnett and C. J. Furer, of Fairfield. J. G. Glazier was chosen president and F. J. Hoerger treasurer; C. J. Furer, G. A. Herzog and L. L. Johnson, directors. Otis Holmes and S. R. Barnett were employed to edit the proposed journal, which was issued in January, 1889.

The Clay Center Gazette was issued in April, 1887, by Smith & Ward.

The Deweese Recorder was issued in July, 1886, by Dr. L. J. Forney. The paper was printed in the News office, at Fairfield, but continued publication for only a few weeks.

The Student was issued in October, 1888, and the fourth number was issued on the day of the Presidential inauguration. May Martin was editor; Blanche Dalton, Maud Mohler, Zilla David and Joe G. Fell, associate editors; Clyde Babcock, solicitor, and A. V. Storm, manager. This little journal was printed in the Journal office.

The first school in Clay County was opened December 1, 1861, by Thomas M. Gregory, in what was afterwards known as District No. 5. W. L. Weed presided over the school in District No. 2, and Laura M. Bancroft over that in District No. 6. District No. 1 was organized in December, 1872, or eleven years after the first school was opened here. In 1881 there were sixty-nine districts established and seventy-four school buildings in existence; there were 3,827 children of school age, 2,008 males and 1,819 females; eighty-nine teachers were employed, who received \$20,548.71 as salary, of the \$29,953.26 expended that year for all school purposes. The bonded indebtedness of all the districts amounted to \$13,092.91. In July, 1885, there were 2,671 male, and 2,368 female children of school age in Clay County; sixty-three male, and 103 female teachers, and seventy-one school districts. The total expenditures for school purposes were \$60,047.06.

Superintendent J. N. Hursh reported eighty-three school houses in Clay County at the beginning of 1889. The institute of 1888 was attended by 129 teachers. The common school lands of the county in November, 1888, amounted to 18,125 acres. Only 1,475 acres were sold during the previous year. There were 4,385 acres rented at \$1,249.42 per annum. During the year 1888, the State funds apportioned to Clay County amounted to \$11,964.56. The total resources for the year ending July 9, 1888, were \$62,223.91, including balance of \$7,493.41 from former year. Of this a sum of \$17,066.88 was paid to seventy-five male teachers, and \$19,931.13, to ninety-two female teachers. The number of male pupils enrolled was 3,037, and female pupils, 2,754, or a total of 5,791. The average attendance was 2,556. One brick and eighty-two frame school buildings were in existence on July 9, 1888, valued at \$69,130, and sites valued at \$11,242. There were seventy-three districts organized and 129 teachers on that date, and five graded schools.

The institute system was introduced some years ago, and under the fostering care of Superintendents Randall and Hursh has been carried down to the present time. A county reading circle in connection with the Teachers' Institute was organized October 9, 1885, with A. A. Randall, president; Marion Thrasher, secretary, and H. B. Strong, treasurer; They, with Elsie Torrey and C. L. Jackson, formed a board of control.

The Clay County Agricultural Society was organized April 15, 1872, at the court house in Sutton. A. K. Marsh was chosen president, and J. M. Ramsey, secretary. Annual fairs were held after its establishment, until 1881, when the exhibition took place at Clay Center. The fair grounds, embracing forty acres of land, were owned by a stock company composed of about fifty of the most wealthy citizens of the county, the use of these grounds being extended to the society for making their exhibits. Up to 1882 the society did not fail to make a creditable exhibition, even during the disastrous years of the grasshopper plague, always paying the premium list in full, and at present has a balance in the treasury. A meeting of the society was held March

4, 1882, at Clay Centre, at which the following officers were selected: D. Leitch, J. E. Kenyon, E. Austin, M. G. Perryman, A. P. Randall, C. Shetler, A. J. McPeak, G. H. Van Duyne, T. R. Elder and Jesse Eller. Some seventeen directors were chosen. In March, 1884, Jesse F. Eller was re-elected president, and H. B. Strong, secretary. At this time the proposition to grant a fifteen years membership to holders of \$10 stock certificates was carried and a life membership conferred on G. H. Van Duyne for services rendered as treasurer. The fair was held at Clay Center this year. In March, 1885, M. S. Price was chosen president, and H. B. Strong secretary. Those officers re-elected in 1886 and in 1887, when George E. Birge was chosen treasurer. M. S. Price was re-elected president in 1888 with W. B. Smith, secretary and H. E. McDowell, treasurer, while, in 1889, the president and treasurer were re-elected; George F. Dixon chosen secretary, and B. H. Dunn, Clive Eller, John C. Ward, G. F. Warren and John H. Tower, vice-presidents. The elections of 1890 resulted in the choice of Charles Hoevet, president; W. B. Smith, secretary; W. J. Gardner, treasurer; D. T. Phillips, general superintendent; Guy Secord, assistant superintendent; A. M. Perry, marshal.

The Swine Breeders Association was presided over in 1889 by W. J. Cox with S. McKelvie, secretary. The association elected the following named officers in February, 1890: W. J. Cox, president; Cleveland Eller, vice-president; S. McKelvie, secretary, and W. E. Spicer, treasurer.

Pursuant to call, delegates from five Farmers' Alliances of Clay County met at East Fairfield, November 23, 1889, to organize a county alliance. After speeches by J. H. Powers, president of the State Alliance, and some of the delegates, a county alliance was organized with L. McReynolds, of Fairfield, as president; J. L. Hodges, of Edgar, vice-president; W. T. Dalton, of Edgar, secretary; L. R. Chapman, treasurer. East Fairfield was chosen as the place of meeting December 14, 1889.

During the years 1870-71 agricultural life in Clay County was primitive in every sense. The pioneers of that period erected their sod houses, and made the faint beginnings of progress. During the

fall of 1875 there were 412 cars of grain shipped from Harvard, 330 cars from Sutton, and 500 from Fairfield, Edgar and Glenville. Wheat averaged sixty-five cents, and the total yield of Clay County was worth \$600,000. As the years rolled by the area of cultivated land was increased, and to-day the county holds a first place among the great producing divisions of Nebraska.

The area of her progress has been marked also by the growth of towns. Harvard and Sutton in the north, and Fairfield and Edgar in the south, are evidences of this remarkable growth.

The Central Nebraska Medical Society was organized at Sutton, June 24, 1876. Dr. J. R. C. Davis, of Aurora, was chosen president; Dr. M. V. B. Clark, of Sutton, secretary. In 1881 Dr. William Knapp, of York, was chosen president, and Dr. A. O. Kendall, of Sutton, secretary and treasurer. As related in the history of Hall County, this organization has been kept up in one form or another down to the present day.

The register of physicians of Clay County contains the following names:

REGISTERED IN 1881.

NAME.	COLLEGE.	DATE.
Marcus W. Wilcox.	Chicago,	1864.
Benjamin C. Oxley.	Cincinnati.	1878.
Thomas E. Casterline.	Practice.	1869.
Charles Palmer.	Chicago.	1871.
M. V. B. Clark.	Cleveland.	1869.
A. O. Kendall.	New York City.	
I. D. Howard.	Philadelphia.	1870.
Owen B. Canfield.	Louisville.	1877.
Mark A. Perkins.	Philadelphia.	1861.
L. J. Forney.	Cincinnati.	1868.
S. A. Allen.	Practice.	1878.
D. F. Anderson.	Keokuk.	1879.
T. R. Hall.	St. Louis.	1875.
R. B. Conn.	New York City.	1852.
John T. Fleming.	Practice.	1860.
Mary A. Howard.	Practice.	1878.
John H. Case.	St. Louis.	1874.
E. T. Cassell.	Iowa.	1875.

REGISTERED IN 1882.

G. M. Prentice.	Iowa.	1881.
Michael T. Robinson.	Montreal.	1857.
John Reisteiner.	Germany.	1870.

REGISTERED IN 1883.

A. Alexson.	Sweden.	1869.
A. H. Keller.	Omaha.	1876.
C. T. Laurence.	Cincinnati.	1857.
Thomas P. Butler.	Louisville.	1882.

REGISTERED IN 1884.

O. P. Shoemaker.	Joplin.	1882.
S. C. Youngman.	Omaha.	1884.

REGISTERED IN 1885.

John F. Edzar,	Iowa,	1885.
Joseph E. Spatz,	Chicago,	1885.
F. W. Rose,	Cincinnati,	1885.
A. J. Bacon,	Chicago,	1864.
G. A. Blair,	Baltimore,	1880.
F. A. Butler,	Louisville,	1879.
Francis M. Wilcox,	Cleveland,	1850.

REGISTERED IN 1886.

J. M. Borkner,	St. Louis,	1886.
Thomas McCrackan,	Chicago,	1886.
H. L. Vradenburg,	Chicago,	1886.
A. L. Saline,	Chicago,	1880.
Daniel Matson,	Practice,	1869.
Wm. H. Miller,	Chicago,	1872.

REGISTERED IN 1887.

R. R. Blair,	Cincinnati,	1885.
G. W. Randall,	Cincinnati,	1878.
Edward D. Bartlett,	Practice,	1861.
A. M. Pickett,	Practice,	1871.
D. G. Thompson,	Iowa,	1884.
C. A. Dean,	Illinois,	1878.
J. W. Kissinger,	Chicago,	1869.
M. A. Perkins,	Louisville,	1887.
Wm. F. Lee,	Iowa,	1875.

REGISTERED IN 1888.

John S. Gallison,	Philadelphia,	1873.
E. O. Boardman,	Chicago,	1878.
Thomas C. Malone,	Chicago,	1877.
Sarah A. Scott,	Iowa,	1888.
Chas. M. Williams,	Indianapolis,	1881.
Adam R. Ray,	Keokuk,	1888.
H. M. Bailey,	Iowa,	1887.
Peter James,	New York City,	1871.

REGISTERED IN 1889.

William Tanner,	St. Louis,	1884.
E. O. Boardman,	Chicago,	1889.
Royal Woods,	Chicago,	1889.
L. C. Holmes,	Chicago,	1889.
L. W. Ramaley,	Joplin,	1882.
James H. Conrod,	Practice,	1872.
Milo L. Kensington,	Joplin,	1882.
I. W. Houghay,	Iowa,	1889.

The military affairs of Clay County are confined to battles between the pioneers, or immigrants, and the Indians, as hitherto related. It is true that a large number of soldiers of the Civil War and a few Mexican veterans reside here, but they did not enlist from the county, and, with the exception of James Bainter, Joe Fouts and Mort Kress did not participate in any of the battles with Indians within the boundaries of Clay County.

The Veteran Soldiers Association was organized in October, 1883, with the following named members: W. S. Randall, G. W. Limbucker, J. W. Gunn, James Bainter, E. G. Neighbor, F. Abbey, C. E. Ashley, A. G. Jacobs, J. D. Rowison, S. M. Elder, L. R. Chapman, C. A. Bush, J. R. Kidd,

G. W. Ferree, B. F. Graham, E. L. Barnhart, I. D. Newell, E. E. Howard, M. J. Hull, John D. Hayes, D. M. Nettleton, A. J. McPeak, L. F. Fryar, B. F. Nall, J. E. Wheeler, E. Sumner, Fred Keeber, David Walker, G. F. Dickson, E. J. Smith, P. T. Walton, John Enrich, E. Austin, A. Hart, M. S. Edgington, George Swingle, Capt. Lyon, Joseph Meyers, A. Soules and C. Stayner.

The militia company and the several posts of the G. A. R. are referred to in the pages devoted to the cities of the county, but at this place the following roster of resident ex-soldiers is given.

The soldiers and sailors residing in Fairfield Township, in May, 1889, are named as follows, the list being taken from Assessor J. B. Massie's list, published in the News:

G. E. Glass, 18th Ia. Inf.	S. J. Anthony, 19th Ohio Inf.
S. Congrove, 18th Ohio Inf.	J. E. Hopper, 6th Mich. Inf.
Ira Ransom, 78th Ill. Inf.	A. Hardy, 100th Ill. Inf.
J. C. Hedge, 6th Pa. Cav.	A. Grey, 116th Ohio Inf.
W. A. Pearson, 132d Ind. Inf.	S. Barrackman, 7th W. V. Inf.
J. A. Jackson, 15th Ohio Inf.	W. E. Chase, 1st U. S. S. S.
H. Spencer, 104th N. Y. Inf.	L. H. Price, 133d Ind. Inf.
G. T. Jones, 9th Ill. Cav.	G. B. McConnell, 93d Ill. Inf.
J. E. Atkey, 116 Ohio Inf.	R. R. Rovee, 34th Ill. Inf.
E. P. Ryder, 9th Ia. Cav.	B. McFarland, Marine.
J. M. Hill, 21st Ohio Inf.	W. H. Howk, 43d Ill. Inf.
D. B. Gillette, 163d Ohio Inf.	D. A. Kenney, 17th Ill. Cav.
J. H. Artrip, 12th Ohio Inf.	J. W. Childerson, Ill. Cav.
J. P. Jennett, 37th Ill. Inf.	W. M. Towers, 28th Ia. Inf.
G. W. Flint, 11th Ia. Inf.	A. S. Whipple, 9th Ind. Inf.
G. W. Avery, 100th Ill. Inf.	A. C. Wilson, 106th Ill. Inf.
T. J. Loomis, 15th Ia. Inf.	E. J. Gordinier, 29th Ind. Inf.
W. Mason, 137th Ill. Inf.	Inf.
J. P. Nixon, 70th Ohio Inf.	Ira Titus, 3d Wis. Cav.
J. B. Massie, 70th Ohio Inf.	S. D. Beckley, 55th Ohio Inf.
H. J. Dowling, 17th N. Y. Inf.	D. Foot, 7th Kan. Cav.
Inf.	J. H. Williams, 77th Ill. Inf.
D. Headley, 31st Ohio Inf.	D. Millard, 128th Ind. Inf.
J. L. Epperson, 7th Ill. Cav.	G. A. Stevenson, 18th Mo. Inf.
G. W. Pace, 112th Ill. Inf.	Inf.
A. S. Barker, 73d Ia. Inf.	W. S. Richards, 68th O. Inf.
B. F. Hyde, 4th Ill. Cav.	J. H. Helton, 7th Ind. Inf.
C. F. Shield, engineer.	D. Ogden, 7th Ill. Inf.
W. S. Randall, 8th Ia. Inf.	Wm. Tolls, 10th Kan. Inf.
M. L. Bycket, 19th Ia. Inf.	W. W. Wathles, 74th Ill. Inf.
E. C. Harrington, 72d Ill. Inf.	J. H. Condyler, 3d Cal. Art.
Inf.	L. C. Brown, 19th Pa. Inf.
N. R. Brown, Minn Inf.	Eugene Brower, 34th Ill. Inf.
L. Brewer, 1st Mich. E. & M.	

The soldiers and sailors in Sheridan Township reported in June, 1889, by Hubbard Stark, were:

John Hill, 42d Ill.	James McCormick, 4th & 6th N. J. Inf.
J. Everett, 1st Ky. Inf.	John Thorp, 197th N. Y. Inf.
D. B. Baker, 126th Ill.	T. B. Elder, 79th Ill.
E. E. Lake, 15th Ill.	J. Becknell, 20th N. Y. Cav.
Wm. Harrison, 42d Wis.	W. W. Mallory, (sailor).
Isaac Spearling, 63d Ill.	

The soldiers residing in Harvard Township in 1889, as reported by L. A. Noyes, were:

John Valkman, 20th Wis. W. A. Titson, 133d Ill.
T. R. Wyckoff, 129th Ill. Svt. Backus, 60th N. Y.
A. P. Hess, 101st Ind. Inf.
David Ormsbee, 18th N. Y. J. F. Hickman, 133d Ill.
Cav. Inf.
Geo. L. Evans, 12th Ind. T. F. Johnson, 138th Ill.
Cav. S. M. Risley, 5th Ill. Cav.
Orlando Bruce, 124th Ill. G. S. Hancock, 188th N. Y.
Anson Soule, 1st. N. Y. D. M. Stiles, 3d Ia. Inf.
Dragoons. Samuel Martin, 129th Ill.
J. F. McGree, 5th Ohio Art. John Donnelly, 124th Ill.
Fred Haseloh, 15th Mo. Inf.
John Heizenroether, 6th A. J. Riley, 145th Pa.
Ia. Cav. David Morgan, 13th N. J.
Robert Shaffer, 24th Ill. G. W. Limbocker, 10th Ind.
A. Swallow, 12th Mass. in Mexican War.
C. S. Bradley, 16th Mich. G. W. Limbocker, 3d Wis.
Geo. Woolfing, 1st Wis. J. W. Mercer, 139th Ill.
Art. Elijah Todd, 33d Ohio.
W. Willoughby, 25th Wis. G. J. Thomas, 1st Wis. Art.
Orlo Birmingham, 104th Mich. Cav. Silas Moore, 2d Miss. in
Ia. Cav. Mexican War and 39th
J. D. Bain, 2nd Ill. Ohio Inf. in Civil War.
Ed. Weimer, 34th Ill. Edward Upkike, 11th N. J.
Erastus Austin, 121st Ill. L. J. Titus, 11th N. J.
E. J. Moger, 93d Ill. G. L. Pike, 39th Ia.
A. W. Raught, 186th N. Y. A. L. Morse, 95th Ill.
R. G. Gregg, 18th Wis. W. W. Russell, 127th Ill.
Bradford Stone, 16th N. Y. Wm. C. Moore, 60th Ohio.
Inf. Wm. C. Ruppier, 39th Wis.
W. H. Hammond, 54th Ia. C. D. Moore, 1st U. S. S. S.
F. L. Allen, 146 Ind. Ezra Brown, 4th Mich. Cav.
S. C. Shout, 8th Ohio. L. A. Noyes, 7th Ill. Cav.
B. R. Shout, 2d Cal. Cav. S. J. Talbert, 19th Ia.
D. B. S. Tatroe, 142d N. Y. W. T. Sherman, 3d Mich.
A. O. Shelp, 14th Ill. A. E. Sherman, 3d Mich.
James Winters, 103d Ill. H. J. Pease.
W. F. Harrington, 112d O.

The soldiers residing in Sutton Township in May, 1889, as reported by J. J. Ochsnur, assessor, were:

James A. Davis, 36th Wis. R. H. Stewart, 77th Ill.
Howard Newnam, 43d Wis. G. R. Day, 2d Mo.
M. Wittenberg, 12th Kan. J. C. Merrill, 130th Ohio.
Wm. T. McKnight, 11th Mo. M. V. Butler, 5th Ia.
Joseph Michel, 77th Pa.
C. F. Meyer, 39th Wis. A. A. Scott, 2d Ia. Cav.
J. P. Will, 193d Ohio. J. G. Reitzel, 64th Ill. Inf.
F. M. Brown, 14th Ind. I. N. Clark, 25th Ill. Cav.
C. J. Hitchcock, 52d Ill. W. H. Smith, 8th Ia. Cav.
G. W. Walters, 27th Wis. A. S. Twitcheil, 116th N. Y.
P. H. Schwab, 52d Ill. Inf.
Chas. Neuman, 7th Ill. Cav. Martin Clark, Ohio Battery.
J. B. Dinsmore, 9th N. Y. Michael Tessier, 27th Wis.
W. J. Keller, 23d Wis. Charles Diming, 29th Wis.
Frederick Schroeder, 52d Ill. Inf.

The soldiers residing in Lewis Township, in June, 1889, as reported by Fred Berkland, were:

Geo. W. Marsh, 60th N. Y. Wm. Hodges, 2d Ia. Cav.
Inf. Harrison Wing, 95th Ill. Inf.
J. Burdick, 19th Wis. Inf. Thomas Fairbanks, 47th Ill.
N. A. Campbell, 47th Ind. Inf.

The soldiers resident in Edgar Township in April, 1889, as reported by J. R. Kidd were:

Ed. J. Smith, 1st Mo. Cav. J. J. Walley, 157th N. Y.
D. B. Sanbourn, 15th Ill. M. J. Hull, 14th Ill.
T. W. Kirkpatrick, 94th Ill. O. Crossman, 105th Pa.
Lahan Sigman, 78th Ohio. James A. Roberts, 39th Ia.
Cyrus Stayner, 2d Ia. J. B. Semans, 1st Minn.
Ez. Howard, 1st Ky. Inf. Geo. W. Fevill or Fevree,
J. W. Cottle, 149th N. Y. 59th Ohio.
J. F. Johnston, 122d Ill. T. E. Casterline.
W. R. Fuller, 19th Mich. Stephen A. Hussey, 139th
W. J. Garvin, 3d Ia. Ill.
A. N. Walruth, 84th Ill. J. E. Adcock, 33d Ill.
W. M. Parish, 46th Wis. Philip Zeigler, 208th Pa.
W. C. Bascom, 21st Ill. A. G. Jacobs, 6th Ohio.
C. H. Treat, 117th N. Y. G. A. Hull, 7th Cal. Inf.
Wm. Saxton, 157th N. Y. M. S. Edgington, 34th Ill.
J. P. Sackerson, 9th Ill. James H. Gardner.
S. B. Montgomery, 70th O. Chas. Klingeman, 30th Ind.
O. A. Avery, 3d R. I. Cav. Chas. Keach, 9th Ill. Cav.
Joseph D. Parish, 19th Wis.

The soldiers residing in Leicester Township, in June, 1889, reported by H. S. Siefken, were:

A. C. Fisher, 9th Ia. Henry W. Gueck, 10th Wis.
W. H. H. Williams, 15th Ia. Hero S. Siefken, 10th Wis.
James Campbell, 33d Ill. Marcus Bennett, 31st Ohio.
Charles Tenbrook, 34th Ill. John Hein, 86th Ill.
John W. McMillen, 91st Ill. James B. Elliott, 10th Ia.
Joe Banta, 14th Ill. J. R. Roggy, 139th Ill.
Wm. J. Perry, 138th Ill. E. S. Turner, 73d Ill.
Val. Paulus, 45th Wis. Geo. King, 17th Ia.
Geo. F. Warren, 3d U. S. O. D. Rhoads, 2d Ill. Cav.
Col. Inf. H. G. Wolrath, 7th Wis.
J. C. Wilson, 117th Ind. F. M. Graham, 46th Ia.
Geo. Allen, 7th Ind. Cav.

The soldiers residing in Logan Township, in June, 1889, reported by H. H. Perry, were:

H. H. Perry, 128th Ohio. A. Nickerson, 189 N. Y.
A. C. Beck, 134th Ill. R. K. Nickerson, 147th N. Y.
C. A. Bush, 97th Ill. Wm. Kewley, 17th Ill.
Chas. Bump, 23d N. Y. Cav. A. J. McClure, 1st Ia. Art.
J. B. Bangston, 41st Ill. Geo. W. Twohee, 153d Ill.
C. E. Ashley, 1st Wis. Inf. Jos. E. Woodhead, 33d Wis.
Frank Abley, 28th Wis. E. L. Bernhardt, 154th Ill.
Albert Herriek, 92d Ill. A. Cameron, 106th Ill.
S. E. Dewey, U. S. Art. J. P. Applegate, 43d Mo.
J. W. Smith, 11th Ia. Jos. H. Phelps, 30th Ia.
Nick Kaslick, 97th Ill. E. Thurber, 15th Ind.

The resident soldiers of Lone Tree Township, in June, 1889, reported by S. M. Elder, were:

John M. Elder, 117th Ill. L. F. Fryar, 37th Ill.
B. F. Graham, 3d Ill. Cav. C. J. Martin, Oneida Cav.
Nathaniel Graham, 27th O. N. Y.
Edward O. Wallace, 39th Geo. F. Dixon, 7th Ill. Cav.
Ind. & 8th Cav. John N. Kirkpatrick, 38th
W. L. Palmer, 36th Ia. Ia.
Wm. Seelig, 130th Ind. Jacob Croffard, 68th Ohio.
Ira Parker, 38th Ohio. Marion A. Hancock, 36th
Chas. Mead, 5th Ind. Art. Andrew Ricker, 20th Me.
John M. Jones, 33d Ia. Robert J. Wilson, 26th Ill.
Ephraim Sumner, 36th Ia. Peter Kritchfield, 105th Ill.
Edward D. Davis, 183d Pa. J. E. Wheeler, 4th & 12th
Jacob Hagar, 36th Ia. Ill. Cav.

The soldiers and sailors in Spring Rancho Township, May 31, 1889, reported by A. J. Frantz, were:

George Krell, 16th U. S. Inf. Jos. Meehan, 1st Wis. Cav.
E. R. Tatman, 10th Ia. Wm. Osmon, 14th Kan. Inf.
Parker Buchanan, 93d Ill. A. P. Russell, 177th O. Inf.
W. W. Hubbard, 8th Ill. Cav. D. M. Nettleton, 4th Ill. Cav.
W. R. Wood, 7th Ill. Cav. Robert Cargill, 118th Ill.
J. H. Clifton, 14th Ill. Inf. Robert Doran, 21st Ill.
H. J. Hull, 74th Ind. Wm. Seigler, 21st Ill.
A. H. Hyde, 4th Ill. Cav. Wm. Batterfield, 4th Ill.
D. W. B. Evans, 1st O. Cav. Cav.
Wm. Brown, 7th Ill. Cav. A. J. Franz, 3d Md. Inf.
James Bainter, 1st Mo. Cav. G. W. Barr, 11th Ia. Inf.

The resident soldiers of Marshall Township, in June, 1889, reported by J. W. Britt, were:

H. C. Masterson, 133 Ill. Inf. Dindley Walton, 9th Ind.
J. E. Smith, 47th Ia. Inf.
Thomas Sumner, 6th Ia. Merritt Walton, 9th Ind.
Joseph Burt, 8th Ia. Cav. Inf.
Cleveland Eller, 9th Ia. Cav. A. P. Randall, 19th Ia. Inf.
Charles Quinn, 45th Ill. Marshall Tolle, 23d Mo.
Clinton Davis, 14th Ohio. L. R. Chapman, 16th Ill.
Wm. W. Stewart, 47th Ill. Inf.
Geo. Schaefer, 52d Ill. Aaron Hart, 141st Ohio Inf.
E. F. Nail, 32d Ill. D. J. Cook, 77th Ill. Inf.
James H. Hazlett, 9th Ill. John Starr, 145th Pa. Inf.
Cav. W. N. Randall, 8th Ia. Inf.

The resident soldiers of Lynn Township, in April, 1889, reported by B. E. Hockett, were:

G. W. Blakely, 99th Ind. Andrew McCormick, 8th N.
G. A. Kaylor, 39th Mo. Y. Art.
J. H. Rockhill, 149th Ohio. Alvin Gray, 123d N. Y.
J. H. Robertson, 35th Wis. J. H. Albright, 3d N. Y.
Wm. Newton, 56th N. Y. Wm. Zook, 163d Ill.
E. J. Stone, 1st N. Y. Art. Geo. F. Dickson, 7th Ill. Cav.
O Higgins, 146th Ill. J. J. Miller, 14th Ia. Cav.
J. E. Turner, 34th Ill. W. H. Deeder, 3d Ill.
Eli Golden, 118-134th Ind. J. C. Gales, 64th Ill.
E. A. Hebard, 25th Ia. G. C. Barthelman, 7th Ill.
J. W. French, 2d Ill. Art. Cav.
H. H. Turner, 27th Ia. R. W. Bayles, 4th Ia. Cav.

The soldiers of Eldorado Township, in June, 1889, reported by John Ochsner, were:

J. T. Oldaker, 13th W. V. Alex. Patterson, 1st Wis.
Francis Walsh, 3d Wis. Art.
D. H. Legala, 52d Ill. Geo. W. Lee, 151-163d Ill.
G. W. Gill, 40th Ill. Jesse J. Harlan, 23d Ky.
Lyman Groce, 71st Ind. G. W. Kling, 75th Ohio.

The resident soldiers of Inland Township in June, 1889, reported by John Flick, were:

H. H. Starr, engineers. James C. Kearney, 15th
D. J. Meyers, 50th Ill. Wis. Inf.
Wm. Delay, 2d Col. Wm. Gallentine, 7th W. V.
John Peterson, 47th Pa. Neil McKenney, 182d Ohio.
J. H. C. Scherich, 201st Pa. Austin Lathrop, 136th N. Y.
Teddie Fissen, 103d Pa. Joseph Myer, 26th Pa. Inf.
Thomas McCormick, 11th Wm. Barnett, 7th W. V.
Mich. Cav. Cav.
Geo. F. Smith, 1st Me. Inf. Albert Lathrop, 18th Conn.
Ben. T. Riley, 70th Ohio. D. M. Francisco, 30th Wis.
W. W. Lyons, 21st Ia. Geo. V. Cope, 10th Mich.
Wm. Ealer, 12th Pa. Cav. Neri Smith, 43d Ohio.
August Steubnick, 1st Mo.

The soldiers residing in Glenville township, in 1889, reported by W. G. Shiveley, were:

Silas Ackman, 43d Ind. D. P. Fisher, 1st Mich. en-
J. R. Vance, 39th Ohio. gineers.
W. Smith, 5th N. Y. Art. D. B. Randolph (sailor).
H. K. Hallock, 10th Mich. E. W. Bortis, 4th Ill. Cav.
Cav. Hugh McCune, 65th Ill.
L. W. Huncutt, 24th Ia. Jacob Trisch, 102d Pa.
J. F. Worick, 5th Wis.

The resident soldiers of School Creek Township, reported in June, 1889, by J. G. Nuss, were:

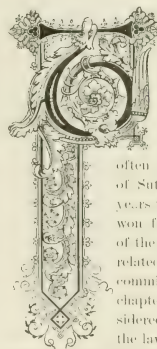
Thomas Smith, 38th Ohio. Josiah Schulz, 102d Ohio.
John W. W. Swallow, 146th Reuben Booth, 1st Ill. L. A.
Ill. Joseph Michael, 77th Pa.
Edward McVey, 4th Ia. Cav. Alonzo A. Corey, 10th Wis.
Wm. Crooks, 46th Wis. Charles L. Campbell, 77th
Jeremiah Daly, 9th Conn. Ill.
Inf. H. C. Edmiston, 21st Pa.



CHAPTER XXI.

CLAY CENTRE AND SUTTON. LOCATION OF THE SEAT OF JUSTICE—PIONEER DAYS OF THE VILLAGES. EARLY
 BUSINESS HOUSES AND DWELLINGS. INCORPORATION. SCHOOLS. CHURCHES. SECRET AND BENEVOLENT
 ASSOCIATIONS. OPENING OF RAILROAD CONNECTIONS. TELEPHONE. BANKS. POSTOFFICES.—
 FRENCH AND GRAY SETTLEMENTS. GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS.
 PRESENT INTERESTS—MODERN CONDITION.

"His corn and cattle were his only care,
 And his supreme delight a country fair."



THE claims of the geographical center of Clay County, from the time the county was organized in 1871 to 1879, were kept before the people, and the spectre of that piece of wild prairie often filled the enterprising citizens of Sutton with alarm. After some years this spectre materialized and won from the wisdom or majority of the people all that it asked. As related in the transactions of the commissioners and in the political chapter, the people of Sutton considered that the victory was against the law and the profits (not prophets), but a second election declared Clay Centre entitled to both.

The latter town was surveyed in the summer of 1879, by O. P. Alexander, acting as trustee for the Town Site Company, composed of R. G. Brown, of Sutton; E. P. Church, of Harvard; R. Bayly and O. P. Alexander, of Fairfield, and is located at the exact center of the county. The land was purchased from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad

Company, and laid off into 600 lots. The first building erected on the site was a large one-story frame, belonging to W. D. Young, and used by the county for a court house, and was built in May, 1879. The next building was a restaurant belonging to J. N. Mills, erected in June, 1879, and in July the post-office was brought from Marshall, about two miles east, and established at the center, and was kept by the present incumbent, Mrs. Sophia Cruickshank, in a small house, the front part of which is used as a postoffice and the back part as a residence. About the first of the next year G. E. Birge and L. D. Fowler built an abstract and loan office, in which business they are still engaged, having the only set of abstract books in the county. The firm also carried on a banking business. In August, 1881, a new firm was formed and incorporated, succeeding that of Birge & Fowler, known as the Clay County Abstract and Loan Company, and having a capital stock paid up of \$15,000. The company is composed of G. H. Cowles, president; L. D. Fowler, vice-president, and G. E. Birge, manager.

In January, 1881, W. D. Young built a carpenter shop, which was occupied June 1, by Mrs. E. C. Tout, and in which she kept a general store, continuing in the business until December, and was suc-

ceeded by D. Leitch, who keeps a general store in the same room, in which also Mrs. A. L. Strong keeps a stock of millinery goods. G. S. and J. C. Ward, before the town started, had opened a blacksmith shop just outside of where it was laid off, and in January, 1880, they moved their shop into the town, where they continued the trade of blacksmithing and repairing. A church edifice was erected in December, 1880, by the Christians, who had hitherto been holding services in a country school house, south of where the town now stands, and is a 24x46 frame house, costing about \$1,200. A school house was built in July, 1881, in which was taught the first school in the town by Mrs. Charles Wagner. A second church was established in February, 1882, by the Congregationalists, with thirty members, and Rev. G. A. Taylor, pastor. Services are held in the court room, but active steps are being taken for the building of a regular church house at an early date. Following this, in the immediate order of time, was the erection of a hotel by C. L. Holbrook, which he ran as a public house until August of the same year, when it was rented to P. T. Walton, and used for the same purpose up to February, 1881, at which time it was sold to J. B. and S. S. Tuttle, the present owners and proprietors. The next building was a law office, which was built in March, 1880, by S. A. Searle, and following this was the erection of a storeroom by S. A. Allen, in which for a short time he kept a stock of drugs. The business, however, ceased, and the house was sold and is now used for a residence. In March C. N. Green built a house for a saloon; H. L. Corey and J. H. Davis built a livery barn and residence, and also a residence by C. J. Martin was built during that month. In November, 1880, E. P. Burnett put up a residence, as also Mrs. D. C. Marsh, the latter being used for a short time for a boarding-house while the court house was in process of erection. The contract for the erection of the court house was given to W. D. Young, in February, 1880, and in the following May work was commenced on the building, which was completed by the first of November, according to the terms of the contract.

In 1873 the Marshall postoffice was established on Section 6, Township 6, Range 6, at the house of

James Cruickshank, with the owner as postmaster. He continued to hold the office there until about 1878, when Mrs. Sophia Cruickshank was appointed and carried on the office at Marshall for about one year, when the office was changed to the new county seat. The salary at that time was \$1 per month; but as the new town grew this small consideration increased, and the office is paid by ordinary commission-to-day. Mrs. Cruickshank has held the office continuously since 1879, and prior to that time carried on the office for her brother-in-law. For the three months ending December 31, 1889, the sale of stamps amounted to \$329, while the money orders issued amount to about \$800 per year.

The first annual meeting of school district No. 70 was organized April 1, 1881, C. J. Martin presiding. Charles Lunn was chosen treasurer; A. J. McPeak, J. E. Thompson and L. J. Forney building committee. The vote of the district in favor of building was 24, and against 9, the amount in question being \$280. John Damon presided in 1882, J. P. Nixon and C. J. Martin in 1883-4. In 1885 H. H. Hendee and wife were engaged to teach the school here for \$700 per annum. In 1886 William M. Walters was a director. In April, 1887, he and J. M. Jones were chosen trustees for one year, D. Leitch and P. Cruickshank for two years, Jacob Hayward and N. M. Moulton for three years. In April, 1888, the question of issuing bonds for \$3,000, the proceeds to be expended on a school building, was ordered to be submitted. This proposition was carried and the two-story frame building erected. The school board, in February, 1890, comprises H. E. McDowell, D. Leitch, J. M. Lyons, Jacob Hagar, N. M. Moulton, and Secretary Stien. Minnie Bayly was employed as teacher in September, 1880; C. S. Detwiler in August, 1881; Emma McKee, 1882; William M. Walters, 1883; H. B. Strong and H. H. Hendee, 1884; B. G. Moulton, Josie L. Noble, L. J. Cowen, 1885. In 1888, J. K. McKee, Josie Noble and Jennie Forbes were teachers, while in 1889 the name of N. M. Graham appears as teacher, and he with Misses Noble and Price preside over the schools in 1890. The number of pupils enrolled is 145, and the total number in the county, 5,877, of whom 3,110 are males and 2,767 females.

George E. Birge, E. P. Burnett, George F. Dickson, Louis F. Fryar, Charles J. Martin, Jonas P. Nixon, O. H. Parsons, George H. Van Dyne and Justus E. Wheeler are credited with being the only owners of books in 1881-82 at Clay Center.

Clay Center was incorporated February 19, 1887, on petition of Peter Cruickshank and eighty-two others, with Dugald Leitch, N. M. Moulton, C. S. Detwiler, John C. Ward and H. E. Goodall, trustees. This board organized February 23, with D. Leitch, president; John M. Jones, clerk; B. F. Pollock, treasurer; B. F. McLoney, attorney. In April, J. C. Ward, J. W. Irish, B. F. Pollock, J. M. Jones and J. Harrison were chosen trustees; L. F. Fryar, treasurer; Charles Athey, marshal, and B. F. McLoney, clerk and attorney; Messrs. Fryar & McLoney hold these positions still. In 1888, C. S. Detweiler, Lee Burlingame, J. M. Jones, C. L. Woodward and H. B. Strong, were chosen trustees and L. Gardner, marshal; in 1889, Jacob Hagar, George S. Ward, Lee Burlingame, George E. Birge and H. E. McDowell, trustees; B. F. McLoney, clerk and attorney; L. F. Fryar, treasurer; J. W. Crouse, street commissioner; L. Gardner, marshal.

In December, 1886, a number of persons from Fairfield visited Clay Center on the first passenger train that entered the town. Conductor Miller and engineer Gordon were in charge of the train. Two hundred and ten persons formed the party.

On March 1, 1887, the depot at Clay Center was opened with S. M. Wallace, agent. He is still in that position. The record of business for the year ending March 1, 1888 shows a total business of \$37,709.47. The heavy business of that year must be credited to the large amount of corn cribbed here awaiting the completion of the road for shipment, so that the fact of the business of the two last years not showing an increase over that of the first year must be credited to this source.

The telephone line between Clay Center and Fairfield was completed April 30, 1887, the credit being given to L. F. Fryar and Jesse Eller of Clay Center, and C. J. Furer, E. J. Jenkins, J. C. Hedge and J. L. Epperson, of Fairfield.

The Commercial State Bank at Clay Center, was established February 11, 1887, with O. G. Smith,

president; J. M. Sewell, vice-president; Horace N. Jones, cashier, and H. E. McDowell, assistant cashier. The capital paid up is \$30,000.

The State Bank of Clay Center succeeded the First National Bank. The new organization was effected August 7, 1889, the corporators being G. W. Clawson, S. A. Walker, C. F. McGrew, George A. Tenney, Frank Knox, George E. Birge, L. D. Fowler, W. J. Gardiner, W. L. Wilson and William M. Walters. G. W. Clawson was chosen president, and W. J. Gardiner cashier.

The State Bank building was erected in 1887 by Jesse F. Eller. This and the court house are the only brick buildings in town.

The Clay County Abstract and Trust Company was organized in January, 1888, with L. F. Fryar, president; George E. Birge, vice-president; H. E. Stein, manager, and they with L. D. Fowler formed the board of director.

The Methodist Society completed organization in 1884, with J. M. Markle, preacher, and the following named members: Mrs. Markwell, H. O. Skike and wife, G. W. Fate and wife, Caroline McClanahan, Nancy McClanahan and William Walters and wife. This society erected a neat frame church building, which was dedicated November 11, 1888, and in other directions shows signs of progress. The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church elected the following officers for 1890: Mrs. D. Fetz, president; Mrs. Mead, vice-president; Mrs. George Ward, secretary; Mrs. N. E. Perry, treasurer.

The Congregational Church of Clay Center was organized February 4, 1882, with Peter McMartin, E. P. Burnett and Peter Cruickshank, trustees. In September C. Wagner took Mr. McMartin's place. Mrs. A. L. Strong was elected January 17, 1883, John Weir, October, 1883, E. P. Burnett and Peter Cruickshank were re-elected in January, 1884, and N. M. Moulton, *vice* Burnett, in September of that year. Early in the year steps were taken to build a church-house, and in September, 1884, the dedication took place. In January, 1885, Mr. Cruickshank was chosen to fill vacancy; M. S. Price was elected in January, 1886; George E. Birge and D. Leitch, in January, 1887, and George E. Birge was

re-elected in January, 1888. The members, on March 7, 1882, were D. D. Noble, wife and three daughters: Cora Noble, Sarah S. Tuttle, F. O. Markwell, Annie L. Strong, Peter and Sophia Cruickshank, Peter McMartin, J. G. and J. P. Grym, Emily L. Noyes, George E. Birge, Mrs. Ward, Charles H. and Fannie Wanger, S. A. and Hattie Allen, A. Cosselman, the McPecks, Sarah and Jennie Leitch, Mrs. Stayker, Dan Wilkinson and wife, Charlotte Wheeler and a few others. One hundred and five names were enrolled up to January, 1890, of whom twenty-two were dismissed and two were removed by death. The first preacher was George E. Taylor, who was succeeded in August, 1886, by Mr. Southworth. Miss Emma K. Henry was appointed pastor April 3, 1887, and on January 8, 1888, Rev. R. R. Williams was called. H. E. McDowell succeeded E. E. Benton as clerk, in September, 1888.

The Christian Church was organized January 11, 1875, with Daniel, Susannah and Lavina Troxel, Abraham and Mary Davis, Walter and Harriet Gantz, Annie Eller, Rebecca Wileman, Olander and Amanda McKay, J. Artrup and John Sperry, members. The preachers have been W. T. and T. J. Newcomb, George Lobinger, William Sumpter, C. B. Lotspeich, O. C. Hubbell, J. H. Stark and A. K. Wright. The office of clerk has been filled by J. F. Eller and M. E. Thomas, while Messrs. Eller, Allbee and McAdams formed the building committee in 1881, under whose direction the house of worship was completed in the fall of that year. The present membership is 121.

The members of the Catholic congregation assemble at intervals, to take part in the ceremonies of the church; but there is no resident pastor.

Of the secret and benevolent societies at Clay Center the following are deserving of especial mention: Clay Center Lodge No. 139, A. F. & A. M., was organized December 15, A. L. 5884, under dispensation granted by M. W., John J. Wemple, G. M., on December 6, A. L. 5884. The charter was granted June 24, A. L. 5885, to George Cinnamon, James Cummins, William C. Dye, Jesse F. Eller, James S. Foulon, Louis F. Fryar, James Leitch, Hugh Loudin, Charles J. Martin, Jeremiah J. Mil-

ler, Guy W. Secord, William D. Shike, William D. Stone, H. B. Strong, William M. Walters, Justus E. Wheeler and George A. Shike, and the lodge was constituted July 21, A. L. 5885, by W. B. Melville W. Stone, proxie of M. W., Manoah B. Reese, G. M. The Worshipful Masters of this lodge are named as follows in the order of service: L. F. Fryar, U. D.; L. F. Fryar, July 21, 1885, to June 24, 1886; H. B. Strong, June 24, 1886, to June 24, 1887; L. F. Fryar, June 24, 1887, to June 24, 1888; H. E. Stein, June 24, 1888, to June 24, 1889, and re-elected for term ending June 24, 1890.

The office of secretaries has been filled by the following named members: C. J. Martin, U. D., C. J. Martin, July 21, 1885, to June 24, 1886; W. M. Walters, June 24, 1886, to June 24, 1887; J. J. Miller, June 24, 1887, to June 24, 1888; C. H. Keyes, June 24, 1888, to June 24, 1889; George F. Dickson, June 24, 1889, for term ending June 24, 1890. The only death was that of John L. Burt, who was buried March 23, A. L. 5885, U. D. The present membership is twenty-seven.

The officers in 1889 were: H. E. Stein, master; G. W. Secord, C. C. Blanchard, George F. Dickson, C. H. Keyes, H. B. Loudin, J. B. Eller, G. A. Shike and George Cinnamon.

Of Excelsior Lodge No. 15, K. of P., it may be said that on October 21, 1873, a preliminary meeting was held at Brownville, Neb., for the purpose of petitioning for charter. On November 19, 1873, a charter was granted to John Blake, L. A. Bergman, E. Huddart, A. J. McFall, J. C. McNaughton, H. H. Dolen, H. L. Crist, John B. McCabe, W. T. Rogers and T. D. Shurtz to organize at Brownville, Neb., a lodge of Knights of Pythias to be known as Excelsior Lodge No. 15, K. of P., Nebraska. On November 19, 1873, the lodge was instituted by J. W. Carter, G. C., and on March 2, 1887, moved to Clay Center and opened by John Morrison, G. C. The chancellor commanders at Brownville were: John Blake, J. C. McNaughton, J. B. Docker, D. B. Calhapp, B. F. Sanders, J. B. McCabe, E. Huddart, J. H. Bower, W. M. Kauffman, J. C. McNaughton, F. E. Johnson, Isaac Williams and W. T. Moore, while at Clay Center the office was held by John M. Jones and George E. Birge. W. B.

Smith holds that office at present. The keepers of record and seal at Brownville were: H. H. Dolen, J. M. Hacker, F. E. Johnson, W. M. Kauffman, E. Lowman, D. D. Adams, George W. Fairbrother, Jr., S. Seeman, J. B. Docker, T. C. Hacker, W. M. Kauffman, C. S. Chatfield, J. C. McNaughton, W. M. Kauffman, and at Clay Center: W. B. Smith, B. F. McLoney, H. E. Stein and S. A. D. Hinton, who holds that office at present. The only death occurred July 28, 1888, when Harry C. Beach died at Whitten, Iowa. The present membership is twenty-seven.

Jordan Post, G. A. R., was organized during the winter of 1886-87, and the charter was granted March 11, 1887, to the following named comrades: Robert J. Wilson, Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry; Joseph L. Myer, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry; Jacob Hagar, Company K, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry; Joseph Burt, Company A, Eighth Iowa Cavalry; Charles Latour, Company C., Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry; Samuel Williams, Company K, Seventy-third New York Infantry; J. J. Miller, Company D, Eleventh Iowa Infantry; J. W. Irish, Company A, Second United States Artillery; Nathaniel Graham, Company A, Twenty-seventh Ohio Infantry; S. M. Elder, Company H, One Hundred and Forty-third Illinois Infantry; Eli Golding, Company I, One Hundred and Eighteenth, and Company I, One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Indiana Infantry; B. F. Graham, Company D, Third Illinois Cavalry; Ephraim Sumner, Company C, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry; L. F. Fryar, Company A, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry; G. W. Marsh, Company C, Sixtieth New York Infantry; Thomas Sumner, Company D, Sixth Iowa Infantry; William Seelig, Company I, One Hundred and Thirtieth Indiana Infantry; John M. Jones, Company F, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry.

The past post-commanders are: Jacob Hagar, L. F. Fryer and J. J. Miller; while S. M. Elder is the present commander. John M. Jones has served as adjutant from beginning. The present membership is twenty-eight, with place of meeting in Union Hall. The name of regiment of members of this Post are contained in the rosters of resident soldiers of the county.

The Woman's Relief Corps was organized January 4, 1888, with sixteen members, of whom the following named were chosen officers in order of corps rank: Mesdames Walters, Miller, Seelig, Mead, Jacob Hagar, Graham, McLean and Wilson.

The A. O. U. W. was chartered here March 21, 1889. The following were charter members. [* after name of first officers.] Joseph Spear, L. F. Fryar*, Arthur E. Nye, John M. Jones*, Edward D. Davis*, James L. Campbell, Lee Burlingame*, Julius M. McLeod, G. E. Birge*, S. A. D. Hinton*, O. C. Williams*, F. A. Thompson*, H. E. Stein*, M. P. Leitch, O. P. Shoemaker*, F. Stanton*, J. C. Ward*, C. C. Blanchard*, L. F. Fryar, P. M. W.; J. C. Ward, M. W.; E. D. Davis, F.; H. E. Stein, O.; O. C. Williams, rec'd; F. A. Thompson, fin.; G. E. Birge, receiver. The names of Past Master Workman and present Master Workman are L. F. Fryar and Master Workman J. C. Ward. O. C. Williams is recorder. There are twenty-four active members of this lodge.

The old cornet band in August, 1884, comprised J. P. Eller, Walter McKinley, J. M. Jones, Jacob Eller, Ed. Underwood, George Ward, Joseph Price, L. F. Fryar, Harry Goodall, C. S. Detweiler and B. H. Markwell. In March, 1887, a re-organization was effected under the title of Knights of Pythias Band, with H. C. Beach, leader.

The press at Clay Center is represented by the Sun and Democrat. The former is the official paper of the county, and is very well conducted.

The Democrat is a new journal, and thoroughly what its name indicates. To it is credited the inquiry which led to the examination of the record books of the treasurer's office back to 1880.

Sutton is the center of new associations. It borrows no propelling power from venerated anti-quareanism since the spot where it now stands was but yesterday the prairie. Her first settlers were iron-souled men, who determined to hew out a town and build up a prosperous community. They had a mission which they performed, and so effectually done was the work that it appears to grow in solidity with the years and to be done for all time. Sutton is the oldest town in Clay County, the largest in point of population and business, and the lowest in

elevation above sea level. Its early history is interesting in every particular and instructive in many. It leaped within twenty-one months from a tract of wild prairie into a pretentious county seat, and within that time entered the lists against the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad legions. Throughout this war against a powerful corporation, the people conducted themselves with remarkable moderation, and justice won for once against oppression. This victory became the theme of George W. Bemis, and in the fall of 1872 he sent the following poem, "Grafton to Sutton," to the M. S. S. Journal, then issued by the members of the I. O. G. T. Lodge, and published in the State Journal in 1873:

"What a clanking of hammers and ringing of saws;
How they sound through the valleys and ring in the draws;
Oh! Sutton is growing, in the midst of the fray,
With the city of Grafton only *four* miles away.

"How the B. & M. engines shriek, whistle and squall,
And send forth the order that Sutton must fall:
How they thunder and mutter and groan night and day,
With the city of Grafton only *three* miles away.

"Then came Mr. Marthis, and thus he did say,
'I am tired of Grafton; if only I may,
I'll come down to Sutton, without delay.'
Soon Grafton will be only *two* miles away.

"Then started the wagons and horses and men,
The steeds, how they foamed, as a whip now and then,
Came down on their sides, near the close of the day,
With the city of Grafton only *one* mile away.

"Then rushed down the hill the black and the gray,
Close followed the crowd to have sport on the way,
And the shout that went up at the end of the fray,
Said 'The city of Grafton is in Sutton to-day.'"

The town site, named after Sutton, Mass., was entered as a homestead, March 14, 1870, by Luther French, a native of Painesville, Ohio. On June 5, that year, he located on Section 2, Township 7, Range 5, and, before the close of that month, finished the first house in old School Creek precinct, on the bank of the creek. Meantime he broke six acres of the prairie and showed evidences that the requirements of the homestead law would be fulfilled on his part, and surveyed the town site August 10, 1871, into 600 lots. He was followed by James C. Vroman, who located a soldier's homestead south of the French claim. Early in 1871, French put in

four acres of wheat, which he threshed that fall by the treading-out process, and winnowed in the wind. The grain was hauled forty-eight miles to Milford, to be ground.

The Gray settlement was made May 4, 1871, by W. H. Gray, John M. Gray, G. W. Bemis, and W. Cuning and wife, the latter being the first white woman who settled near town. A few days later McTighe erected a board shanty between the homes of H. W. Gray and A. A. McCoy (as they stood in 1882), and opened the first business house, continuing there until the re-location near the railroad. Kearney & Kelley started a saloon, using a tent as store-house, and P. H. Curran and Martin Higgins also established saloons. As the work of railroad building progressed the saloons moved west.

In June, 1871, Andrew Sherwood established his blacksmith shop in a sod-house, below Mr. French's dug-out. J. R. Malthy, of Crete, and William A. Way also came, and, jumping Vroman's claim, succeeded in getting it canceled and a title issued to themselves. This old Vroman claim they surveyed in February, 1873, as the first addition to the town of Sutton. Thurlow Weed brought a car-load of lumber from Lincoln to this point, August 23, 1871, and opened the first lumber yard. John M. Gray arrived with another car-load on August 24, and started another yard.

Asa Tracy kept the first hotel and later conducted a store. Charles Calkins was similarly engaged here. Mr. Lynch's grocery was in the building occupied by Bagley & Bemis, in 1882. Thornton R. Linton established the first livery September 20, 1871; and, on October 14, an election held at Campbell's house, near Harvard, decided in favor of Sutton as the county seat.

The post office was established in June, 1871, with Luther French post master, whose coat-pocket was used as a post office. Rev. A. Burlingame, who was at one time a Methodist preacher, succeeded French January 1, 1872, and on July 1, that year, the salary of the office was increased from \$12 to \$400. On July 1, 1873, it was created a money order office, and on the 7th the first order, for \$10.50, was issued to Russell Merrill in favor of Burns, the Omaha merchant. During the war be-

tween the town and the railroad. Post Master General Cresswell favored the claims of Sutton and forced the railroad company to deliver the mail at the office, which was just within the eighty rods limit. This was changed and the train men were ordered not to stop at Sutton, thus compelling the mail agent to snatch the sack from the postmaster. On August 19, 1872, Burlingame refused to so deliver the sacks, leaving them in the office. The railroad company introduced a war against the local postmaster, who reported matters and the company was compelled to carry the mail from Grafton to Sutton. T. R. Linton, the freighter, was hired to do this work, and performed it at \$100 per three months, until the company grew tired of the expense, and petitioned for leave to deliver at Sutton. This was granted and a mail crane was erected opposite Gray's lumber yard, in the fall of 1872. Sometimes pranks would be indulged in, one of which was the hanging of a dead dog on the crane, which the mail agent caught at, supposing it to be the mail sack. The crane was cut down subsequently, and, by some railroad influence, a United States carrier was appointed, who served until the little war was ended and a depot established here. In March, 1877, A. C. Burlingame was appointed postmaster. A. C. Burlingame served after the death of his father until W. T. Stone was appointed postmaster by the Arthur administration. W. T. Keller came in in 1887, and J. W. Johnson, appointed in vacation in the fall of 1889, and was confirmed as postmaster in 1890.

The railroad war dates back almost to August 12, 1871, when the first rail of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was placed within the township of Sutton. Shortly after Attorney Joseph Wilsey, of Crete, waited on French and induced him to give right of way on condition that a depot should be established at Sutton. This deed was not recorded until after his deed to the Clark brothers was filed, and so became worthless. The company, however, placed a freight car here to be used as a depot building. It was No. 124, and this number was painted on a bleached buffalo skull, which was suspended from a pole attached to one end of the car. On the town of Grafton being surveyed for

the railroad company, this temporary depot was moved four and one-half miles east of Sutton, basing their action on the fact that Sutton was given up to saloons, and that the Vroman claim was still unsettled. This peculiar transfer was made December 15 and 16, 1871. The war was then commenced in earnest. The Vroman title was settled, and in January, 1872, Mr. Weed was authorized to offer the railroad company one-half of Clark, Maltby & Way's addition and twenty acres of Maltby & Way's lands, on condition that the depot be re-established. Other steps were taken, but without avail, and not until April, 1873, did the people cease their efforts to obtain a depot. Meantime the merchants gave their freight to the St. Joe & Denver Railroad. Robins & Marthis had removed their store from Grafton to Sutton in December, 1872, and the battle against the railroad company was virtually won. In May, 1873, it acceded to the terms proposed by the citizens, and in the fall of that year the depot was erected and R. M. Grimes appointed agent. He was succeeded by L. S. Sage.

A daughter was born to Mrs. F. A. Gross, February 15, 1872, being the first birth in Sutton. Maude, a daughter of Asa Tracy, died April 21, 1872, being the first death.

A colony from Southern Russia, near the port of Odessa, on the Black Sea, came to Sutton and settled in the town and adjacent country in the fall of 1873. The principal leaders of the colony were John Grosshans, Henry Griess and Henry Hoffman. The whole number of families was fifty-five. They bought, in the aggregate, 16,120 acres of land, at an average cost of \$7 per acre, making \$112,840 that was paid the Burlington & Missouri Railroad Company and to the homesteaders for land. Their property in Sutton cost them \$18,000; their combined wealth in this county in 1882 was \$500,000.

Sutton, in July, 1873, comprised forty-one houses, nearly all devoted to business. The Times and Herald were published, two hotels were carried on, and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad depot was built.

In 1871 there were only eleven houses in existence here, but before July, 1882, there were no less than 284 buildings in the town. During the first

eleven years of Sutton's up-building (1871 to 1882) there were only five business failures recorded. The principal business buildings in 1882 comprised the two-story building, with Masonic hall above, of I. N. Clark & Co.; store building of Connor & Sheppard; the two-story building, with Odd Fellows hall, of John Grosshans; the one-story building, Griess' hardware; one story, of Weed & Co., and store, same size; old court house, two stories; new public school building, with projections each way, twenty-four foot posts, with a belfry and dome; two rooms below and a chapel, with all the modern conveniences of cloak and apparatus rooms.

During 1873, 2,483 tons of freight were received and 1,154 tons forwarded; during 1875, 4,239 tons were received, 5,255 tons forwarded; during 1875, 120,681 pounds of merchandise and 528 car-loads of grain were shipped. The same year were received 1,389,716 pounds of merchandise; 414 barrels of salt; 94 barrels of lime; 54 barrels of coal oil; 101 barrels of apples; 11 carloads of emigrants' movables; 26 cars of corn for seed; 209 cars of lumber, and 183 cars of coal, etc.

In November, 1871, the Gray & Bemis nursery was established. The first directory was published in February, 1872, by Houston & Street, of Lincoln, the volume showing three dry goods and grocery houses, two flour and feed stores, one drug store, one hardware, two lumber yards, one hotel, one implement warehouse, one nursery, one livery, one fur and hide store, one meat market, two real estate offices, one physician's office, one attorney's office, and one shoemaker's shop. This latter concern was also the residence of the local preacher, for William Woolman was a sole and soul cobbler. The population in 1871 was 35.

On November 1, 1871, I. N. and Martin Clark opened the first store on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, west of Crete, at this point, having first purchased the unsold lots on the town-site from French, for \$4,000. They opened a hardware store February 20, 1872, having, ten days before, established a drug store. C. M. Turner erected his store-house November 17, 1871, and opened it for business December 9, while Corey & Co. opened their store simultaneously; but the latter sold to

Stewart & Evans prior to 1881, and returned to Crete. The business street was then known as Whisky Row. Merrill & Co. opened a general store in January, Thompson & Young established their agricultural implement house, John I. Smith a harness shop, Charles Meyer a shoemaker's shop, and on Rev. Burlingame being appointed postmaster, he purchased Maltby's building. J. M. Gray erected a building south of the postoffice, the Calkins and Jenkin's houses were erected, and the Mines building (the first school house), was moved to the Gray lot. The establishment of the depot and of Maltby & Way's addition to the town, tended to withdraw some interest from Sorghum or East Sutton, and the town south of the track was called Scrabble Hill. The Fitzgerald building was the third erected on Scrabble Hill, the first having been erected by F. A. Gross, late in the fall of 1872. In April W. A. Way moved to this point from Crete, and opened a hardware store in the Fitzgerald building, and shortly after the Kribbler furniture store was built and opened. This building was occupied by George Henry in 1881, and Weed & Co. succeeded W. A. Way, in 1874. In the fall of 1873 Way & Stewart erected the building which was subsequently occupied by Keller & Co. and Merrill & Co., the latter commencing business in January, 1873, shipped the first car-load of grain from Clay County, August 14, that year, the grain being raised on Russell Merrill's farm, on Section 20. In March, 1873, Connor & Sheppard opened a grocery store, Mrs. M. V. Foote opened a millinery store, and Mrs. C. M. Church followed her example August 10, 1873. About this time the Melvin Brothers opened their general store south of the track, and they, with Gross, Kribbler and Turner, were the pioneers of Scrabble Hill. A. B. Lacore built a two-story business house on Main Street early in 1873.

Grice & Towleslee established their harness business February 25, 1875, succeeding John I. Smith, a very talkative character, who flourished in Sorghum's palmy days, and whose business card still remained all over the front of his former shop on Main Avenue. On the same day, J. F. Evans & Co. opened their lumber yard, succeeding Monnell, Lashley & Weed. F. W. Holmann came from Lincoln.

Neb., and opened a dry goods and grocery store, in June, 1874; he was a musician by profession. John B. Eaton & Son built a grain warehouse February 1, 1874. The building was afterward sold to Eaton & Pyle, and later passed into the hands of F. A. Pyle & Co. Eaton & Pyle enlarged it to a horse-power elevator, having a storage capacity of 7,000 bushels, and a daily capacity of 1,000. J. F. Evans & Co. (T. A. Margrave, manager), commenced the grain business in the fall of 1874. This company were extensive dealers, from the Mississippi River to Sutton. The daily capacity of their elevator at Sutton was 2,000 bushels. McKee & Robinson commenced the photograph business in the summer of 1873. McKee afterward succeeding. W. J. Keller & Co., druggists, commenced operations November 30, 1875, as successors to J. Thompson & Co. Alcorn & Clyde began business in agricultural implements September 15, 1875, succeeding to Alcorn & Colvard. J. E. Ryan, from Illinois, operated the first exclusive dry goods store in the county. May 19, 1876, Mrs. F. A. Gross opened a millinery store and dress-making establishment. In the spring of 1876, B. B. Cronin commenced in the boot and shoe trade, the first of the kind in Sutton. The Sutton Brick Company (J. S. LeHew, superintendent; I. N. Clark, treasurer); commenced the successful manufacture of brick June 1, 1876. April 22, 1876, Sherwood & Torrey opened their meat market. Kreiger & Balzer were in this business before them, and had a shop just north of Gray's old lumber yard. Afterwards the shop was moved to Saunders Avenue. W. Cuning bought into the firm and sold out again to Kreiger. Cuning was appointed deputy sheriff, which office he held four years. Earlier he used to be a great man to drive work, and did most of the heavy hauling in the town. Later, Eugene Bemis succeeded to the business, and had a dray built, the first one in the town. The first builder in the town was Henry Potter, now of Spring Ranche. He built P. H. Curran's saloon near the last of May, 1871. The first plastered building in Sutton was the county court house, built and plastered early in 1873. The masons came from Crete. Other tradesmen not before mentioned were A. A. Scott, Montgomery & Bro., Emery &

Bro., and I. B. Terryll, builders; W. W. Jordan and Farris & Co., masons; Spencer & Co., William Smeltser and James McVey, blacksmiths; Daniel Cronin and F. J. Hoerger, carriage and wagon makers; Paul Braitsch, successor to J. D. Harris, jeweler; B. B. Cronin and George Karcher, shoemakers; Ramsey & Griffith, house and sign painters; John Nehf, harnessmaker; Augustus Meyer, barber; William Ryan, P. H. Curran and James Stewart, billiards.

The petition for the incorporation of Sutton was granted October 15, 1874. This petition was signed by William A. Way, Francis M. Brown, James J. Melvin, John C. Merrill and Dr. Martin V. B. Clark. In granting the petition the commissioners named them trustees, and they organized with F. M. Brown president, R. G. Brown clerk, F. M. Davis treasurer, and I. D. Emery marshal. In 1875 Messrs. Way, Merrill and Clark, with Paul Braitsch and George Seward, formed the board. J. L. La Hew was chosen clerk, Davis treasurer, and W. Wilkinson marshal. An election on the question of issuing \$5,000 10 per cent bonds to the Sutton Mill Company was held April 6, 1875.

1876—Trustees: F. A. Pyle, E. P. Church, J. W. Shirley, James Sheppard and I. N. Clark; chairman, E. P. Church; clerk, J. S. LeHew; treasurer, F. M. Davis; marshal, A. Brown. F. M. Davis resigned the office of treasurer and J. A. Tout was appointed, December 9, 1876, to fill the vacancy. During the early part of the year a petition, signed by R. G. Brown and twenty others, was presented to the board of trustees, asking that they incorporate Sutton as a city of the second class. In response to this request of the citizens, ordinance No. 24 was passed by the board, whereby the town was incorporated as a city of the second class. An election was held and the following officers elected: mayor, I. N. Clark; police judge, J. R. Maltby; clerk, J. S. LeHew; treasurer, J. A. Tout; marshal, C. F. Meyer; councilmen for the First Ward, J. S. Sheppard and W. E. Bemis; councilmen for the Second Ward, T. Weed and F. A. Pyle. This administration was characterized by general activity and improvement, since continued, making the town of Sutton the neat and attractive place it now is.

In compliance with the statutory enactment regulating such matters, the next election of city officers was held on the first Tuesday of April, 1878, at which time the following persons were chosen to the respective positions: mayor, I. N. Clark; clerk, J. S. Le Hew; treasurer, L. R. Grimes; police judge, E. P. Burnett; marshal, C. A. Melvin; city engineer, Frank Conn; councilmen for the First Ward, W. E. Bemis, for two years, and J. S. Sheppard, for one year; councilmen for the Second Ward, F. A. Pyle, for two years, and James Thompson, for one year. J. S. Le Hew was appointed police judge May 6, 1878, *vice* E. P. Burnett. At the next regular election, in 1879, R. G. Brown was chosen mayor; police judge, J. Rowley; city clerk, A. L. Lamont; city treasurer, J. S. Le Hew; city marshal, R. H. Stewart; city engineer, F. A. Pyle; councilman for the First Ward, F. J. Hoerger; councilman for the Second Ward, James Thompson. A. L. Lamont resigned the office of city clerk, and A. A. McCoy was appointed August 30, 1879.

The winter of 1879 proved a period of misfortune to the flourishing young city of Sutton. During that time the Legislature passed a law requiring all places to have a population of 1,500 before they could be incorporated as cities of the second class. But Sutton, by all known methods of computation, could not raise her numbers to that point, by a few hundreds, and thus in the period of youth "was cropped the golden plumes of this proud young city." Accordingly, with the beginning of the next year, in abject humiliation, she was compelled to resume the less elegant garments of a village. The officers elected, in 1880, to take control of the village were as follows: trustees, M. Wittenberg, C. W. Brown, James Thompson, George Honey and A. E. Meyer; chairman, A. E. Meyer; clerk, A. A. McCoy; treasurer, J. S. Le Hew. A. A. McCoy resigned the office of village clerk, January 4, 1881, and William F. Stone was appointed.

1881—Trustees, R. G. Merrill, M. V. B. Clark, F. A. Pyle, J. E. Bagley and Henry Grosshans; chairman, J. E. Bagley; clerk, W. F. Stone; treasurer, J. B. Dinsmore.

1882—Trustees, R. G. Merrill, F. J. Hoerger, F. M. Brown, W. W. Wieden and T. R. Linton;

chairman, F. M. Brown; treasurer, J. B. Dinsmore; clerk, W. F. Stone.

The trustees of 1883 were F. M. Brown, W. D. Roberts, F. J. Hoerger, J. C. Merrill, W. W. Wieden; W. F. Stone, clerk, and J. B. Dinsmore, treasurer. In 1884 E. Landman took Mr. Stone's place, and F. C. Matteson that of Dinsmore. In 1885 Messrs. Merrill, Roberts, Hoerger and Matteson were still on the board, with Henry Nagel and A. Grosshans, new members; Richard Darnsted, clerk, and F. C. Matteson, treasurer. In April, 1886, a city government was re-organized with A. O. Kendall, mayor; Theo. Miller, clerk; T. Weed, police judge; J. B. Dinsmore, treasurer; Charles Newman, engineer; J. W. Shirley, C. W. Walther, F. C. Matteson and A. Grosshans, aldermen. In 1887 Henry Grosshans was elected mayor, with the same police judge, clerk and treasurer; Frank Conn, engineer, and the same aldermen as in 1886. A village council also assumed control for a part of this year, but their claims were found untenable by the supreme court. This council comprised C. B. Gray, W. H. Thompson, A. Greenheid, George Honey, H. Jones and L. Jarrett. In 1888 F. C. Matteson was chosen mayor; F. M. Brown, police judge; Theodore Miller, clerk; John Ochsner, treasurer; F. Conn, engineer; Henry Nagel, P. H. Schwab, William Griess and E. W. Woodruff, councilmen. This council submitted the question of issuing \$20,000 bonds, the proceeds to be expended in the construction of a system of water works. The question was approved by a majority vote, but, the legality of the bonds being questioned, the case was presented to the supreme court, with the result of placing a *quies* on the work. In 1889 the People's and Anti-License candidates were leaders in the contest for municipal honors. F. C. Matteson (P) received 174 votes and Charles Moon (A-L) 80 votes for mayor; H. M. Clark was elected clerk; J. J. Ochsner, treasurer; John Ling, engineer; M. Wittenberg and E. W. Woodruff were elected councilmen; Martin Clark and Theodore Miller, new members of the school board, with E. P. Burnett, R. S. Silver, Peter Griess and H. C. Brown old members.

The first hotel was erected in February, 1872, by William Shirley, who settled here in December,

1871. The Central Hotel was built on the site in June, 1874, and the old building made an annex to it. Some years later the building became the dry goods house of M. Wittenberg.

The Clark House was built in the winter of 1871-72, for I. N. & Martin Clark, who carried on their hardware business therein until January 1, 1873, when Dudley Hoisington transformed it into a hotel. In August of that year E. P. Church became proprietor and carried on the house until November 1881, when he moved to Harvard to take possession of the Metropolitan. The Clark House is now the billiard hall of George W. King.

The Occidental was erected by R. G. Brown in 1878, at a cost of \$4,500, and was opened by W. J. Abbott, who after a six month's term was succeeded by J. T. Mollyneaux, as lessee. Mr. Mollyneaux bought the house in 1880, and traded this house for the Oakland.

The Oakland House, built in 1886, by a stock company, was opened by George A. Blue, June 30, that year. C. W. Walthers and Crumley conducted the house for short terms. In August, 1888, F. M. Curtis took charge of the Oakland House, but conducted it only for some time, when Mr. Crumley returned as lessee and carried on business until Mr. Mollyneaux purchased the building.

The pioneer bank of Sutton was established by L. L. Grimes & J. B. Dinsmore, January 1, 1877. They erected a brick building for an office in November. In 1879 or 1880, F. C. Matteson took the place of L. L. Grimes.

The Sutton Bank was founded in April, 1880, by L. D. Fowler and George H. Cowles.

The First National Bank, of Sutton, was opened in October, 1885, in the company's building just then completed. George H. Cowles was the first president of this house; J. N. Clark, vice-president; L. D. Fowler, cashier; George E. Birge and J. E. Bagley, directors.

The Fowler & Cowles Mortgage Company in the report of July 17, 1886, claimed resources estimated at \$83,420.54. George H. Cowles was president, with L. D. Fowler, M. C. Joslyn and George E. Birge, directors.

The Sutton Board of Trade was organized Feb-

ruary 14, 1887, with L. D. Fowler, president; F. M. Brown and F. C. Matteson, vice-presidents; I. N. Clark, treasurer; J. W. Johnson, correspondent; and Daniel S. Van Valkenburg, recorder. The officers then chosen are practically the officers of the board to-day.

The first school building in Sutton was a frame house, built by Owen Mines, which stood nearly between the residences of C. M. Turner and Mr. Rowe. It was sold at sheriff's sale to the Clark brothers to satisfy a lumber debt in favor of Weed; afterward rented to Thompson & Young; then sold to J. M. Gray & Co., for an office, which they occupied in 1882. William Weed taught the first school in the town, and the second in the county, commencing about January 20, 1872, with an average attendance of fourteen. Another building was erected for school purposes in the fall of 1872, and stood on J. M. Gray's homestead, just outside of the town limits, on the east side. This building continued in use as a school house about two years, when it was sold to district No. 20, about six miles south of town and was occupied by that district as a school house in 1882-83. A large school building was erected in the spring of 1876. Besides this, the old court house was made use of to accommodate the schools, in which one of the primary departments was kept in later years. The school was graded by Prof. J. W. Johnson in the fall of 1876, and enrolled a total of 215 pupils, about 180 of these being regular attendants in 1882, under the instruction of Prof. W. C. Picking, as principal; Laura E. Sawyer, assistant, and Nellie Henderson, Mattie Torry and Katie Conn, teachers of the primary departments.

In the winter of 1883-84, a course of study was adopted by the schools of Sutton, and arrangements made by which close connection with the State University was established. The Sutton school building was destroyed by fire January 21, 1886. The value of this building was placed at \$7,000. In June, 1886, the contract for building the new school-house was awarded to J. L. Hutchinson, of York, for \$13,400. The series of bonds issued comprised twenty of \$500 each, and thirty \$15 interest coupons attached to meet the interest for fifteen years.

The school board of district No. 2, comprised John E. Bagley, John J. Bonekemper, Isaac N. Clark, H. C. Brown, Richard Darnsted and Joseph Grice. In November, 1886, Prof. Stephens presided over the high school, assisted by Miss Lake, Miss Merrill, Miss Constable, Miss Mollie Brown, Miss Clara Lake, and Mr. Eberhart, of the German classes. In 1887, the names of Misses Clark, Lamont, Mallock and Braun appear on the list of teachers.

In June, 1888, Misses H. R. Brewer, S. L. Lake, Anna H. Merrill, Ethel D. Constable, Clara M. Lake, Janie Lamont, Lucy Roys, Mollie L. Braun and Mrs. Moore were the teachers.

In 1876, the Iowa Conference, of the Evangelical Association of North America, sent Rev. W. Schwerin to Sutton as its Missionary. That year a parsonage was erected, but no organization was effected. In 1877-78, Rev. C. Smith was the pastor of the work. Some success attended the work.

In 1879, when the Nebraska Conference of this Association was organized, Rev. A. Fische, was sent to the work. June 16, 1879, the society was organized with twenty-eight members who were served by Mr. Fische for three years. In 1882, Rev. H. Sahl was sent to Sutton as pastor and served for three years. In 1884 a church was built. In 1885 Rev. A. Brancle was appointed pastor and served three years. This year the parsonage was repaired and an addition built thereto. In 1888, Rev. I. Laipply was appointed. The society numbers at present 123 members.

The first sermon at Sutton of the Christian Church, was preached December 30, 1875, by Elder J. M. Yearnshaw, of Lincoln, three members being in attendance. The first sermon at Marshall was on January 3, 1876. Meetings continued until the 11th. January 9, a Sunday School and Church was organized, the result of Elder Yearnshaw's labors. The first sermon preached at Fairfield was by Elder Newcomb, February 13, 1876; members present were only three. April 18, 1876, a series of meetings was commenced by Elder R. C. Barrow, State Evangelist of Nebraska. A church of twenty-six members was organized at Sutton on the 16th, the meeting closing on the 19th. In 1882 there were

twenty members belonging to the organization; while the Christians had three other churches in the county and a total membership of 175.

The first and only Christian Sunday school in the county up to 1882, was organized September 14, 1874, with four scholars, by Mrs. P. A. Halleck at her residence. At the expiration of nine months, the school numbered thirty-five, when the place of meeting was changed to the court house, and continued at that place until the county commissioners closed the court house to all church organizations.

The First Congregational Church building was the first house erected at Sutton, and in the county for the purpose of worship. This building was erected in the fall of 1875 at a cost of \$1,500, T. Weed, E. P. Burnett, W. Cuning, F. A. Pyle and E. H. White, constituting the building committee. The first services were held in the grove at Sutton in July 1871, by Rev. Mr. Jones. May 26, 1872, Rev. O. W. Merrill, then superintendent of Home Missions for Nebraska, organized a church, with eight members, Thurlow Weed, Mrs. Thurlow Weed, C. Stevens, Mrs. C. Stevens, Thomas Millholland, Mrs. L. Keutner, Mrs. S. Corey and Mrs. C. M. Turner. The first regular continuous services were conducted by Rev. D. B. Perry, now president of Doane College. Following Mr. Perry came Revs. Chas. Hibbard, Reuben Gaylord, (supply) John Gray, S. F. Emerson, C. F. Graves, Geo. Scott, E. H. Baker, Geo. Scott, H. B. Frey and F. C. Cochran. The church clerks have been Thos. Millholland, E. H. White, Mrs. T. Weed, C. W. Walthus and Mrs. E. D. Goodrich. The present membership is ninety. This society has organizations at Spring Rancho, Fairfield and Harvard. For the north half Clay, Rev. John Gray, pastor; south half Clay, Rev. Thomas Pugh, pastor. The Harvard society built a church in 1882, and claimed over forty members at that time.

The First M. E. Church building (brick) was erected in 1882, and dedicated that year. The Sutton Class was organized in September 1874, by A. J. Swarts and within the eight succeeding years erected a brick church and parsonage at a cost of \$3,600. Mr. Ewell was preacher-in-charge at time of building. In June, 1871, a student from Toulon, Ill., named Wm. Whitten organized a class

at Patrick Fitzgerald's house near Sutton. In 1886 Rev. N. A. Martin was pastor and in 1887-88 Mr. Randall was preacher-in-charge.

The first Catholic service was celebrated by Father Kelley in a tent, June 15, 1871, with eight members, most of whom were railroad men, building the road-bed of the Burlington & Missouri River Railway. Meetings were held at the house of M. McVey, in Sheridan precinct. Work began upon the erection of a church in the fall of 1878, and was completed in the following spring. The building is a large frame, 30x60 feet in dimensions, and cost together with furniture about \$2,000. The building first used by the congregation was a small frame, which has since been removed, and is now in use as a county school-house. The congregation had a membership of fifty-five families in 1882, and was under charge of Father J. Jenette, of Exeter. In later years the church was attached to the parish of Hastings, and was attended by Father English, or the assistant priests of the parish.

The German Reformed Church was established at Sutton in the fall of 1874 by immigrants from Russia. The preliminary meetings were held in Grosshans' Hall. The organization was effected by Rev. Dickeman, and the congregation had about twenty-five members. From Grosshans' Hall they removed to the Odd Fellows' Hall, where they remained until the regular church house was built in the fall of 1878. The building is frame, and is 30x60 feet in size. There were in 1882 about eighty-three families in the congregation and about 300 members, with the Rev. William Bonekemper as pastor.

A congregation was started by the German Congregationalists in November, 1880. The work of organizing was under the special charge of Rev. W. Sess, of Crete, assisted by the Rev. E. Jose and others. The church began with sixteen members, and the early services were held in the old court house and were conducted by Rev. Mr. Jose, who has since remained with the charge from its organization. There are at present twenty members. A Sunday-school was organized at the same time with fifteen members. Mr. Bentz was the successor of Mr. Jose as pastor.

Evening Star Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation December 22, 1873, with J. Arnot, master; M. W. Wilcox, S. W., and J. C. Merrill, J. W. The charter was granted June 28, 1874, to R. L. Gaw, J. B. Dinsmore, A. K. Marsh, C. L. Henny, F. M. Brown, J. C. Merrill, M. W. Wilcox, C. M. Turner, James Arnot, M. J. Hull, John M. Gray, I. N. Clark, W. D. Young, J. J. Melvin and M. V. B. Clark. The members who held the master's chair are named as follows: James Arnot, M. W. Wilcox, J. B. Merrill, A. K. Marsh, G. H. Van Duyne, J. C. Merrill, J. B. Dinsmore, R. G. Brown, J. C. Merrill, F. M. Brown, J. C. Merrill and G. H. Van Duyne. The present master (February, 1890), is A. K. Marsh. The secretaries were: F. M. Brown, J. B. Dinsmore, James Melvin, A. C. Burlingame, J. E. Bagley, K. T. Jones, F. A. Alexander, J. H. Johnson, George Mitchell, F. M. Brown, J. M. Borkner. The present secretary is J. M. Borkner, and the present number of members, sixty-eight.

Lebanon Chapter, R. A. M., No. 14, Sutton, Neb., was created under Dispensation from the Grand Chapter of Nebraska, December 21, 1875, by the following masons: M. J. Hull, A. K. Marsh, W. W. Young, M. W. Wilcox, F. A. Pyle, J. C. Merrill, C. B. Crittenden, J. D. Berrin, H. R. Wheeler, G. H. Van Duyne and G. S. Harrington. The High Priests of this Chapter were as follows: M. J. Hull, A. K. Marsh, G. H. Van Duyne, R. G. Brown, F. A. Pyle, R. G. Brown, G. H. Van Duyne, Henry Lehrmann and J. C. Merrill. The present High Priest is John B. Dinsmore; the present secretary is J. M. Borkner; J. C. Merrill, King; W. H. Davis, Scribe; I. N. Clark, treasurer. The present number of members is fifty-six.

Sutton Lodge No. 53, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Grosshans' Hall, in Sutton, on the evening of November 15, 1874, by the Grand Master, Ira A. Gallup, assisted by brothers from Crete, York and Fairmont lodges. Charter members were W. A. Way, George Stewart, J. F. Evans, I. B. Tyrrell, E. P. Church and George Kreiger, all fifth degree members; Evans and Church, Past Grand. W. A. Way was elected N. G.; I. B. Tyrrell, V. G.; George Stewart, Sec., and George Kreiger, Treas.

Following the installation of officers by the Grand Master, came petitions from R. G. Merrill, S. B. Montgomery, W. J. Keller, S. Carney and J. Grice, to join by initiation, and D. J. Towles as an Ancient Odd Fellow, all of whom were made members the same evening. The Grand Master assigned Clay and Hamilton Counties as District No. 28, appointing E. P. Church District Deputy. In the summer of 1878 the lodge began the erection of a building, which was completed in the spring of the following year. The officers in 1882 were J. W. Shirley, N. G.; G. W. Bemis, V. G.; J. B. Royce, Sec., and A. G. Sherwood, Treas. William Stewart, F. J. Hoerger, John Beurnman and John Segrist have been prominent members of the lodge in later days.

The Wildey Encampment, I. O. O. F., was organized in May, 1877. The charter members were J. W. Shirley, W. J. Keller, George Stewart, Fred Hoerger and Dr. A. O. Kendall. The officers of the lodge in 1882 were W. J. Keller, C. P.; H. Lehmann, H. P.; W. D. Young, J. W.; J. S. LeHew, S. W.; Paul Braitsch, Treas., and H. Nagle, Sen. J. T. Molloyneaux and J. S. LeHew have served in recent years as officers of this encampment.

The G. A. R. was established on April 28, 1879, with twenty members. The first meetings were held in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The officers elected at that time were W. S. Randall, P. C.; J. C. Merrill, V. C.; A. K. Marsh, J. V. C.; Dr. M. V. B. Clark, surgeon; I. N. Clark, Q. M.; I. B. Tyrrell, chaplain; E. H. White, Q. M. S.; W. T. McKnight, adjutant; E. E. Howard, S. M. About two years after the society removed from the Odd Fellows' Hall into their armory. The organization is known as the George G. Meade Post No. 19, and numbered forty-two members in 1882. The officers for that year were C. W. Walther, P. C.; Dr. M. V. B. Clark, S. V. C.; C. Newman, J. V. C.; I. N. Clark, Q. M.; R. A. Hawley, chaplain; R. H. Stewart, adjutant; W. J. Keller, O. D.; Dr. M. V. B. Clark, surgeon. The names of the members of this post are included in the general roster of ex-soldiers and sailors, given in the general history.

Company B, First N. N. G., was organized November 15, 1878, with W. J. Keller, captain; J. S. Le Hew, first lieutenant; George W. Bemis, second

lieutenant. In 1882 Capt. Keller was lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, and Lieut. Le Hew, judge advocate general. In recognition of the company's drill and equipment it was given the title "Governor's Guards." This was the first uniformed and equipped militia company in Nebraska. In 1880 the command aided in quelling the riot at the Omaha smelting works, and on March 8, 1882, was present during the graders' riot on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at Omaha. In 1882 W. D. Young was captain; F. C. Matteson, first lieutenant; G. C. Roys, second lieutenant; J. H. Johnson, first sergeant. The company is still in active existence. Capt. W. J. Keller is one of the most active members of this organization, as he is of the G. A. R.

Grove Lodge No. 1,477, K. of H., was instituted at Sutton, on the 19th day of March, 1879. The first officers elected were: W. J. Keller, D.; F. J. Hoerger, R.; J. W. Johnson, F. R.; E. H. White, Treas.; J. T. Molloyneaux, P. D., and also representative of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Honor. At the organization the lodge had a membership of twenty-two. Many changes have been made in the membership of the lodge since it began, sometimes falling below the original number, and again increasing above it. The officers chosen in 1882 were: Paul Braitsch, D.; I. D. Smith, V. D.; R. H. Stewart, A. D.; J. M. Ramsey, R.; J. W. Shirley, F. R.; F. J. Hoerger, Treas.; J. B. Dinsmore and A. C. Clyde, representatives to Grand Lodge. Only one regular member of the lodge died prior to 1882. This was Thomas Davis, Jr., who died October 25, 1879, to whose widow the lodge paid a benefit of \$2,000. The total expenditure per member, including all dues and assessments, for the three years ending in 1882, amounted to but \$46, or an average annual tax on each member of \$15.33.

The Scientific Association was organized in 1881, with Dr. M. V. B. Clark, president; E. H. White, vice-president; U. H. Mallick, secretary; H. W. Gray, treasurer. In 1882 Dr. Clark proved before this association that Mrs. C. B. Evans, formerly Zuleina Platt, invented the lucifer match, on June 27, 1828, at Waterford, N. Y., thus correcting the old story which credited this match to John Walker, of Stockton-upon-Tees, England, in 1829.

The Knights of Pythias on November 26 elected the following officers for 1890. J. E. Marsh, C. C.; W. J. Legg, V. C.; P. T. Walton, M. of F. and K. of R. and S.; N. A. Tyler, P.; George Lerch, M. of A.; Dr. J. M. Borkner, M. of E. Although the Sutton lodge has been crippled to some extent by so many of the members moving away, there has been a determination manifested on the part of the remaining members to build up the lodge, and they now have the order in a prosperous and flourishing condition.

Rosa Division No. 19, K. of P., was instituted October 3, 1887, by John Morrison, G. C., and Col H. Downs, First Regiment U. R., K. of P. The officers elected were L. N. Rosa, A. A. Callahan, J. T. Mollyneaux, Frank Conn, F. J. Hoerger and C. F. Knapp, holding positions in order of division rank.

The Grand Order of the Orient's Lodge was organized at Sutton, August 20, 1887, with J. T. Mollyneaux, G. O.; W. W. Stewart, V. G. O.; A. A. Callahan, G. H. P.; J. H. Beurman, G. V.; E. M. Clift, secretary; Theo. Wentz, treasurer, and C. F. Knapp, G. A. P. J. A. Davis was G. O. in 1888, and William Gold in August, 1889.

The Clark, Le Hew, Case & Britsch brick yard was established June 1, 1876, and during the ensuing year 120,000 bricks were manufactured. In 1880 a patent brick machine was introduced.

The Sutton creamery buildings were burned May 2, 1887, the total loss being \$6,000, and the insurance \$2,000. The present creamery soon succeeded that destroyed, and it is probable that it manufac-

tures more butter than any other like institution in the State. Its output last year was 368,893 pounds. This was an increase of about 20,000 pounds over 1888, and the company expects to make a proportionate increase this year. Over \$92,000 were paid out during the year.

The Sutton steam roller mill was erected in 1885 for Alexander & Russell, the Oakland House, the First National Bank office, R. G. Brown's brick block on the south side, and I. N. Clark's on the north side, were also erected.

In other pages references are made to railroad and other accidents in and around Sutton.

The freight collision of December 20, 1889, on the Burlington & Missouri, fortunately wanting in a record of loss of life, entailed heavy losses on the railroad company. Ten loaded cars of merchandise were smashed into splinters, and piled up in the very center of the town. One car plunged through the bay window of the depot where the operator sat, demolishing the telegraph instruments and working general havoc in the business office. The depot platform for 200 feet was piled high with splintered timber, car wheels and merchandise.

In December, 1887, work on the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad depot was commenced. On January 20, 1887, the first train from Fairfield arrived with the bands of that town and Clay Center. A reception was held at the Opera House, and several addresses were delivered. A free lunch was one of the leading events of the celebration. The train of six coaches and a caboose was in the charge of Conductor Barry.



CHAPTER XXII.

HARVARD AND FAIRFIELD—BEGINNING—PRE-EMPTION OF TOWN SITES—ORIGINAL SURVEYS—INCORPORATIONS—EARLY MERCHANTS—PIONEER BUSINESS MEN—FIRST BUILDINGS—MAYORS, TRUSTEES, ALDERMEN, ETC.—OFFICIAL DIRECTORY—VOTERS OF 1836—COMMERCIAL INTERESTS—FINANCIAL—FIRES—WATER SYSTEM—EDUCATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS—SECRET AND BENEVOLENT ORGANIZATIONS—GENERAL HISTORY.

Who would excel, when few can make a test.
Between indiff'rent writing and the best? *Dryden.*



HARVARD village and vicinity may be termed the site of some of the parent settlements of the county, for here many of the pioneers pitched their tents and made some of the first material improvements. When the first settlers came to this old camping ground of the tribes, there was spread out before them one of nature's grandest panoramas, the prairie extending to the horizon. In 1871 the site of Harvard was pre-empted by N. W. Brass, E. J. Stone, Bartholomew Mosher (or Moger) and G. W. Van Guilder, and patented to them in September of that year. A formal transfer of their title to the South Platte Town Company was made shortly after, and the location surveyed. Within view of the surveyors were the statutory homes of the pre-emptors, built more to comply with the too easy conditions of the rules of pre-emption than to shelter the pre-emptors. Before the prairie grasses were cut down by winter the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad depot was built, and in February, 1872, a store-

house was erected by E. H. Birdsall, in which he placed a general stock of merchandise. The Peck & Meston lumber yard was established soon after, followed by the feed store of F. Mann and J. Decker, the shoe shop of William Rowe, and the general store of L. J. Keeny. The Harvard House was opened by Dimick & Stone at this time. The little settlement was fully established when W. F. Gue, land agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad located an office here. Then came the second land agent, I. J. Starbuck, and in the summer the blacksmith shops of W. E. Welton and A. H. Myers were opened. C. K. Morrill opened a drug store in the Estes building, and there E. J. Stone kept the postoffice. In July J. D. Todd's furniture store and E. P. Burnett's law office were opened, followed by Sawtell's office.

In the fall of 1872 Strickland's grocery store was opened, and by the close of November about thirty houses marked the progress of Harvard's first year. Mr. Strickland did not enjoy pioneer privileges and hardships, nor did he reap the rewards of pioneer life. It appears he was a Methodist preacher in Michigan, and though married and the father of five children, fled with another woman, and sought a cover for his crime here. Until he was discovered

he was popular in church circles and was regarded as one of the founders of the Methodist Church of the settlement. For four months this happy condition of things existed; but a letter from the abandoned family and a photograph of the sinning husband and father arrived, and in the darkness of the night the adulterer and widow fled from the justice which the morrow would bring.

Among the leading men of the village in 1882 were John D. Bain, who settled here in 1873, and with E. H. Birdsall established a lumber yard, and with M. J. Pike established a store in 1880; T. A. Barbour settled here in June, 1872, as carpenter, pre-empted 160 acres, opened a real estate office in 1874 and a law office in 1878; R. A. Brown settled on a pre-emption claim near Sutton in 1871, and in the fall began law practice at Sutton; Thomas J. Dowd settled at Harvard in 1873, and established his jewelry store, subsequently founding branch stores at Hastings, Aurora, and other places; A. T. Gilchrist established a grocery store at Harvard in 1879; John D. Hayes, a law office in 1873; Henry J. Keller, a shoe store in 1873; D. T. Phillips, a store in 1878 and hotel in 1881; L. A. Payne, a bank in 1878; James Richard, a blacksmith shop in 1877; J. F. Sawtell, a store in 1877; C. J. Scott, a building office in 1877; S. C. Sloat, book and stationary store in 1876; Lewis Stein, grocery store in 1873; L. J. Titus and E. Updike, their loan business in 1879; G. H. Washburn, agency for Spring Rancho Mills in 1879; Dr. Wilcox in 1879; T. R. Wyckoff, his farm in 1872.

A post office was established at Harvard in December, 1871, and E. J. Stone was appointed to the position of postmaster. Upon its first establishment, the office was kept in a storeroom erected by M. Estes, which was also occupied by C. K. Morrill with a stock of drugs. The office at first was somewhat migratory, and the location depended largely upon the whereabouts of the postmaster, as he was accustomed to carry the mail in his plug hat. Previous to its establishment at this place, settlers usually obtained their mail at Grand Island, at a distance of about thirty miles. Stone held the position of postmaster until June 1, 1872, and was succeeded by M. Estes, whose appointment lasted until January

29, 1877, when the commission was given to S. C. Sloat. The office was made a money order office in July, 1875. T. L. Wind was commissioned postmaster by President Cleveland, but held the office only ten months when G. W. Martin was confirmed December 20, 1889. Prior to this his appointment was made and, on November 5, he entered upon his duties. He re-established the office on Clay Avenue. S. C. Sloat was his deputy and Miss Martin assistant.

The railroad depot was established here in the fall of 1871. A Mr. Harney served as agent for about eight years. J. J. Cox, T. J. Cox, Gates and Sharp followed in succession and then came A. A. Armitage, the present agent.

In the fall of 1888, there resided at or near Harvard the following named voters of 1836-40: W. H. Hammond, Charles Church, Erastus Austin, Joseph Megrue, Wm. Mercer, Silas Moore, V. L. Carr, Geo. W. Brown and Andrew Kennedy.

The petition of E. H. Birdsall and others praying that Harvard be declared an incorporated town was granted July 1, 1873. E. P. Burnett, E. H. Birdsall, W. A. Farmer, G. W. Howard and J. D. Bain were named as trustees.

At a meeting of the board July 19, 1873, E. H. Birdsall was chosen chairman; E. P. Burnett, clerk; William Mulliken, treasurer; W. F. Gue, assessor; C. W. Gardner, marshal and S. M. Risley, pound master. E. P. Davison was appointed pound master.

The following shows the names of those who have held official position in the village government since its incorporation up to the present time, with the date of service: 1873—Trustees, E. H. Birdsall, chairman; E. P. Burnett, clerk; J. D. Bain, W. A. Farmer, G. W. Howard, (succeeded by B. F. Haviland), treasurer, William Mulliken; marshal, C. W. Gardner; assessor, W. F. Gue; pound master, S. M. Risley, (succeeded by Mr. Davison).

1874—Trustees, W. H. Hammond, chairman; W. A. Mulliken, C. W. Gardner, E. P. Burnett, clerk; W. R. Mulliken; treasurer, J. F. Sawtell, assessor, C. K. Morrill, (succeeded by E. C. Morse); pound master, E. P. Davison; marshal, L. Webster, (succeeded by Jos. Spotts). W. A. Farmer was elected as the fifth member of the board.

1875—Trustees, W. H. Hammond, chairman; M. Estes, L. Stein, C. D. Moore, T. J. Dowd; clerk T. J. Dowd, (succeeded by O. W. Birmingham); marshal, Joe Spotts; assessor, E. C. Morse. T. A. Barbour was appointed treasurer June 9, and W. A. Varner was appointed attorney. T. A. Barbour was appointed assessor in place of E. C. Morse, who moved away.

1876—Trustees, M. Estes, chairman; M. D. Kellogg, C. D. Moore, L. Stein and G. W. Howard; clerk, G. W. Howard; treasurer, W. H. Hammond, (succeeded by C. D. Moore); marshal, Joseph Spotts; assessor, T. A. Barbour.

1877—Trustees, T. A. Barbour, chairman; C. D. Moore, P. M. Culvard, L. C. Howard; clerk, L. G. Hurd; treasurer, H. R. Wheeler; marshal, Joseph Spotts.

1878—Trustees, E. J. Moger, chairman; W. J. Turner, A. D. Davidson and W. H. Disbrow; clerk, L. G. Hurd; marshal, Joseph Spotts.

1879—It was during this year that the organization as a city of the second class took place, with the following officers: Mayor, W. J. Turner, clerk, T. R. Hall (succeeded by L. A. Varner); treasurer, L. A. Payne; police judge, T. A. Barbour, (succeeded by D. T. Phillips); engineer, J. T. Fleming; councilmen of the First Ward, W. H. Hammond and Ezra Brown; councilmen of the Second Ward, C. J. Scott and P. B. Lyons.

1880—After the existence as a city of the second class, and the place again became a village the following officers were elected: Trustees, W. J. Turner, chairman, Ezra Brown, H. G. Starkey, H. R. Wheeler and J. A. Swope; clerk, I. B. Littler; treasurer, L. A. Payne; attorney, L. A. Varner; marshal, C. W. Gardner (succeeded by Joseph Spotts). William Gallup held the position of night patrolman.

1881—Trustees, W. T. Perry, chairman; L. G. Hurd, B. C. Oyler; attorney, L. A. Varner; clerk, F. W. Burdick; treasurer, L. A. Payne.

On August 1, 1878 the board of trustees of the town of Harvard petitioned for the correction of the act of incorporation and in accordance with their prayer the correction was made, showing that the former act was made on petition of a majority of taxable male inhabitants thereof. A petition by

John D. Hayes and 198 other taxpayers of Harvard precinct, asking the commissioners to fix a date for voting on the following proposition, was presented December 16, 1878: "Shall the commissioners of Clay County issue bonds of Howard Precinct to the amount of \$5,000, to be placed in the hands of E. P. Burnett, W. S. Randall and E. E. Howard, officers of the county, as trustees, to be delivered to the commissioners of Clay County, in the event of the location of the county seat at Harvard, proceeds to be devoted to the erection of county buildings at Harvard within six months of re-location of seat of justice." This petition was granted and a date made for election.

In April, 1882, J. D. Bain, B. C. Oyler, L. A. Payne, C. D. Moore and C. W. Gardner were nominated for village trustees; L. A. Varner was chosen clerk and W. H. Canfield, treasurer.

T. R. Wyckoff, John Hill, William Newton, Louis Stein (the two last *vice* J. E. Wheeler and M. Estes), were chosen members of the school board in 1882. In 1883 Louis Stein was re-elected, and W. H. Canfield took the place of Ezra Brown on the board. H. C. Brown was chosen moderator of the new board.

The trustees of Harvard elected in 1883 were Messrs. Payne, Bain and Gardner, of the old board, with S. S. Dunn and L. J. Titus. William Shackelford was appointed marshal.

In 1884, the anti-license candidates for village trustees received from 100 to 112 votes, and the license candidates from 45 to 52. C. H. De Groff received 152 votes, being nominated by both parties. The trustees elected were C. D. Moore, L. J. Titus, J. D. Bain, C. H. De Groff and C. J. Scott. C. K. Morrill was chosen clerk; W. H. Canfield, treasurer; S. M. Risley, marshal, and M. Estes, superintendent of cemetery.

The village elections of 1885 were mainly carried by the Citizens party. L. A. Payne, B. S. Harrington, Ezra Brown, John Morrow and Melvin Estes were elected trustees.

In April, 1885, L. T. Clark and A. P. Hess were elected members of the school board *vice* John Hill and T. R. Wyckoff.

In 1886, M. W. Wilcox was elected mayor; L.

P. Crouch, police judge; S. W. Wistrom, clerk; L. J. Titus, treasurer; H. S. Freeman, engineer; M. V. Corey, G. W. Gardner, C. Rockhill and R. Donnelly, aldermen. The vote cast for license was 69; against license, 143. The Citizens ticket was beaten.

In April, 1887, G. W. Limbocker was chosen mayor, G. W. Updike, treasurer; G. D. Webster, clerk; John T. Fleming, engineer; T. H. Bennett, and B. R. Sloat, aldermen.

In April, 1888, G. W. Updike was elected mayor by 117 votes against 92 votes for James Donnelly; I. R. Littler, treasurer; W. H. Payne, clerk; Ezra Brown, police judge; J. T. Fleming, engineer; G. A. Herzog and M. V. Cory, councilmen, with aldermen Sloat and Bennett holding over.

In April, 1889, James Donnelly was elected mayor; John T. Fleming, clerk; L. J. Titus, treasurer; G. W. Limbocker, engineer; B. S. Harrington and Samuel Martin, councilmen; L. G. Hurd was appointed attorney; Dr. Rose, physician; J. F. Hickman, marshal; O. C. Clark, member of board of health; J. A. Rupiper, superintendent of cemetery; J. R. Corey, weighmaster, and C. D. Moore, foreman of fire company; L. J. Titus, J. L. Misner, I. L. Yoman and H. E. Belding were elected members of the board of education. A vote on choice of postmaster shows 153 for G. W. Martin, 102 for O. W. Birmingham, 73 for S. C. Sloat and 25 for G. L. Pike.

Not until spring of 1880 did the all-consuming conflagration arouse the people to the cry of fire. At that time, a building occupied by P. Lyons and J. W. Wigman as a hardware store, was burned. Having no means by which to extinguish the fire, all the people could do was to stand aside and watch the darting flames as they fitfully played through the frail timbers of the wooden structure. During the same spring, a residence belonging to Henry Disbrow was burned. Again in the month of January, 1882, the fiery demon set about the work of destruction, and a large grain elevator, belonging to W. J. Turner, was completely consumed. Shortly after these steps were taken to organize a fire department, and bonds for \$3,000 were ordered to be issued, the proceeds to be applied on the construction of cisterns and in the purchase of a fire engine.

The officers of the fire company elected in March, 1888, were C. D. Moore, foreman; J. T. Fleming, secretary; I. R. Littler, treasurer; A. J. Moger, assistant; I. R. Littler, captain of hose company, and John Richards, second assistant.

The Harvard board of trade was organized in May, 1887, with W. J. Turner, president, G. W. Updike and Ezra Brown, vice-presidents; L. J. Titus, treasurer; B. S. Harrington, secretary; J. D. Bain, E. Austin, G. W. Limbocker, C. K. Morrill, E. Updike, T. A. Barbour, I. D. Howard, J. A. Rupiper, W. T. Perry, O. Johnson, L. J. Titus, L. G. Hurd, W. P. Shockey, B. R. Sloat, C. J. Scott, S. J. Rice, L. Webster, O. J. Riley, G. S. Babcock, C. W. Gardner, S. B. Weil, J. R. Donnelly, M. W. Wilcox, Adam Herzog and C. Rockhill, directors. The list of unofficial members with the above named embraced the entire business circle of the city.

A restaurant and house of entertainment was established in 1871 by F. M. Davis in a house erected by the railroad company.

The Harvard House, erected in 1872 by Dimmick & Stone, was the first hotel. After its completion it was sold to Ira F. Pearsall, and the name was ultimately changed to the Commercial House.

The Goehring House was built in 1872-73, but was afterward moved away, and became known as Goehring's saloon.

In July, 1879, Goehring erected on the site of his first house the large building known as the Metropolitan Hotel. J. B. Spafford leased this house from the owner, and in 1882 E. P. Church was lessee.

The Grand Central was erected in 1881 for D. T. Phillips.

The Raught House is referred to in the history of the Harvard Building Association.

In March, 1888, the Harvard Building Association was organized with James Donnelly, president; B. S. Harrington, secretary; G. W. Updike, treasurer; W. J. Turner, L. J. Titus, J. A. Rupiper, C. J. Scott and I. D. Howard, directors. A resolution to erect a brick hotel building to cost not less \$9,000, and not over \$12,000, was adopted, and the site, where Moger's implement warehouse and the photograph gallery stood, selected. In May the

building contract was sold to Mr. Frich, of Hastings, for \$9,244. The house was finished in the fall and leased to A. W. Raught, of Syracuse, Neb.

L. A. Payne & Co's. bank was established February 11, 1878, by L. A. Payne and W. A. Varner. Late in 1880 Mr. Varner died, and on April 1, 1881, the company was re-organized with L. A. Payne, W. H. McBride and J. R. Penfield proprietors. In the fall of 1878 a two-story brick building was erected for bank purposes, which was remodelled in 1880.

The Nebraska Mortgage Company was incorporated in November, 1889, with L. J. Titus, president; N. D. Blackwell, vice-president; Edward Uplike, treasurer, and G. W. Uplike, secretary. The capital and surplus amount to \$100,000.

The Exchange Bank was founded in December, 1881, by Edward Uplike and L. J. Titus.

The Exchange Bank and Commercial Bank were merged into the Union State Bank in April, 1889. Articles of incorporation were filed on March 23, and business commenced April 1. The paid up capital was \$100,000. Edward Uplike is now president, with N. D. Blackwell and C. W. Uplike, vice-presidents, and L. J. Titus, cashier.

The First National Bank was established in 1889 with a paid up capital of \$50,000 under charter 4,129. T. H. Matters is president, C. Rockhill, vice-president, and Jesse F. Eller, cashier. They, with Felix Grant and James H. Byram, form the board of directors.

The White Lion flouring mill was erected in the fall of 1879 by William D. Cook, and equipped with three run of stones and steam power.

The Patrick Egan elevator at Harvard was sold to J. C. Lincoln and J. W. McKibben in June, 1889. On the completion of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad to this point other elevators were erected.

The first school was opened in the winter of 1872-73 by Mrs. C. K. Morrill, at her house, and was attended by thirty-nine pupils. During that winter the contract for building a school house was sold to Peck & Meston, who completed the house early in the summer of 1873 for the contract price, \$5,000, this sum being raised on bonds voted by the district. The district was organized in July, 1872,

with E. J. Mosher, Alex. Meston and M. L. Latham, directors or trustees. Some years later the number of members was increased to six, and in 1881 H. C. Brown, M. Estes, Ezra Brown, E. J. Stone, T. R. Wyckoff and William Newton formed the board. F. L. Foreman was then principal, with Ella McBride, L. A. Varner and Clara Geary, teachers. District 11, at this time, claimed 471 school children and employed eight teachers.

The board of education organized in May, 1887, with L. J. Titus, president; T. A. Barbour, vice-president, and J. E. Wheeler, secretary. Mrs. L. A. Noyes resigned and Mrs. Tracy refused to fill the office of trustee. William Newton, L. J. Titus and Louis Stein were appointed on the board.

Harvard Lodge No. 70, I. O. O. F., was instituted in Harvard, Neb., on the 18th day of October, 1878, by D. M. McElhenny, assisted by F. Forcht, B. F. Bower and C. H. Paul. The charter members were D. W. Dalton, D. T. Phillips, F. W. Burdick, B. F. Hockett, J. D. Hayes, W. H. Hammond, Henry Matters, J. H. Jordan, E. Austin, J. S. Filler, W. T. Shackleford, G. H. Washburn, N. H. Lewis, Peter Green, T. H. Matters, A. D. Munger, S. M. Risley, C. J. Scott, R. S. Johnson, J. D. Hume, T. H. Bennett, A. J. Moger, and at present George M. Jones, all Noble Grands. Lodge No. 70 is at present honored with having one of its members in the person of J. D. Hume as an officer in the Grand Lodge of the State, filling the office of that lodge as Grand Herald. The secretaries of the lodge in order of service have been F. W. Burdick, B. F. Hockett, W. E. Orwin, J. D. Hayes, J. H. Jordan, T. H. Matters, W. T. Shackleford, George H. Washburn, P. Green, J. D. Hume, A. D. Munger, S. M. Risley, C. J. Scott, R. S. Johnson, G. H. Bennett and A. J. Moger. The present membership is twenty-nine.

Olive Branch Lodge No. 16, of the Degree of Rebekah, of the Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted March 18, 1881, by the District Deputy Grand Master, F. W. Burdick. The charter members were N. H. Lewis, J. D. Hayes, B. F. Hockett, W. T. Shackleford, F. W. Burdick, W. H. Hammond, G. H. Washburn, W. H. Wade, E. Austin, J. H. Jordan and E. D. Moore.

The officers elected for this branch of the order were E. Austin, N. G.; Mrs. N. H. Lewis, V. G.; Mrs. Lydia A. Hayes, Sec.; J. H. Jordon, P. Sec., and Mrs. J. H. Jordon, Treas. Mrs. N. H. Lewis presided over this lodge for a long period.

Harvard Lodge No. 92, I. O. G. T., was organized some time prior to 1882, with C. P. Baldwin, W. C. T., and the following named officers in lodge rank: Mrs. J. D. Moore, W. H. Chadwick, E. P. Burnett, B. R. Sloat, T. A. Barbour, J. J. Starbuck, Mrs. S. Backus, Mrs. Sloat, M. L. Latham, Mrs. Legrant, Mrs. Manchester and Ezra Brown.

The Red Ribbon Club was presided over in July, 1879, by R. F. See, the I. O. G. T. by C. E. Cope, and the Temple of Honor by D. T. Sherman.

The W. C. T. U. officers in 1887, were: Mrs. L. A. Noyes, president; Miss Buck, vice-president; Mrs. Barbour, secretary; Mrs. Babcock, treasurer; Mesdames Soule, Moger, Scott, Pinckard, Bain, Church, Markle, Carr, Bradley, Southworth, Swallow, Moore and Keebler, unofficial members. In the fall of 1888 Mrs. Anna Moore was chosen president, and Miss Jennie Babcock, secretary.

Harvard Lodge No. 44, A. F. & A. M., was first of the secret orders to become established here. It was organized March 25, chartered June 18, and instituted in October, 1873. The officers chosen for its management were: A. J. McPeak, W. M.; F. M. Davis, S. W.; Ezra Brown, J. W.; W. C. Massey, Sec.; S. C. Sloat, Treas.; L. B. Munger, S. D.; A. P. Davidson, Tiler. W. J. Turner was Master in 1878-80. The first meetings were held in Sawtell's Hall; afterward the society moved into quarters in Sloat's Hall, and later occupied rooms in conjunction with the Odd Fellows. The officers in 1882 were: L. B. Munger, W. M.; J. H. Washburn, S. W.; J. D. Hayes, J. W.; O. W. Birmingham, Sec.; J. D. Bain, Treas.; G. W. Limbocker, S. D.; N. H. Lewis, J. D.; C. D. Moore, Tiler. The office of master has since been filled by G. H. Washburn, W. J. Turner, William Newton, L. G. Hurd, and in 1889 the following named officers were chosen: A. D. Davison, W. M.; O. P. Birmingham, S. W.; J. S. Caterson, J. W.; J. H. Webster, Sec.; W. J. Turner, Treas.

The first regular meeting of the G. A. R. was

held in January, 1885. Lieut.-Col. John Morrow was elected commander: S. H. Robertson, S. V.; George Evans, J. V.; M. Estes, Q. M.; Ed. Weimer, O. of D.; F. L. Allen, O. of G.; E. Austin, chaplain. The Post, however, was organized in October, 1884. The officers of the G. A. R. elected in December, 1889, were: Com., C. S. Bradley; S. V., O. W. Birmingham; J. V., L. S. Backus; Q. M., J. A. Rupiper; surgeon, Alvin Gray; O. D., Ed Weimer; O. G., Silas Moore; chaplain, G. W. Martin, and adjutant, W. G. Willoughby. In February, this society, aided by the W. R. C., held a fair and lottery, to raise funds for building a hall. The roster is embraced in the general roster of ex-soldiers and sailors residing in the county in 1889. The office of commander has been filled by Ezra Brown, Col. Morrow, E. Austin, W. E. Welton, James Donnelly and C. S. Bradley.

A camp of the Sons of Veterans, organized here some time ago was mustered in in July 1889 by James Donnelly with twenty-three members. The officers were, Dr. F. B. Rose, Captain; Julius Stone, First Lieutenant and Arch. Robertson, Second Lieutenant.

The W. R. C. preceded the Sons of Veterans, as an organization. In 1886-88 Miss Mercy Swallow was president. In December, 1888, the W. R. C. elected Mrs. Luceta Sloat, president; Laura H. Turner, S. V. P.; P. J. Austin, J. V. P.; Mary O. Hancock, treasurer; E. J. Moger, chaplain; Mary E. Gray, conductor; Mercy A. Swallow, guard; Mary G. LeGate, A. G.

Harvard Lodge, K. of P., was organized July 9, 1887, with N. P. Shockey, C. C.; I. D. Howard, V. C.; S. W. Westrom, P.; W. H. Payne, K. R. and S. S. B. Weil, M. of E.; G. D. Webster, M. at A.; C. B. Morrow, P. C. The unofficial members were, C. D. Moore, J. H. Webster, T. H. Bennett, S. Rosenbaum, L. G. Hurd, R. H. Scott, C. J. Bills and O. J. Riley. The ceremonies of installation were attended by delegations from Hastings, Clay Center and Sutton.

In 1886, C. S. Babcock presided over the A. O. U. W. The lodge elected in 1888, I. R. Littler, P. M.; J. F. Hickman, M. W.; with T. H. Matters, S. J. Rice, O. J. Riley, G. S. Babcock, J. T. Fleming,

N. H. Pontius, John Bingham and C. J. Scott, filling the remaining offices. Mr. Hickman is now serving as M. W., with A. J. Young, recorder.

A camp of M. W. of A. was organized in February, 1888, with J. M. Markle, V. C., with C. A. Sharp, T. H. Matters, J. D. Hume, A. J. Moger, F. W. Rose, G. A. Herzog and W. J. Johnson, filling the other offices. F. W. Rose was vice-council in 1889 and N. H. Pontius in 1890.

The Al-nor-car-em Quartette was organized in the fall 1889, and the name based on parts of the vocalists names.

The first religious services here were conducted by Rev. Numan Brass, a Methodist, in August, 1871, and the house of worship was his pre-emption shanty on his claim. In July of this year a class of ten members was organized by him and for some time services were conducted in a railroad coach until the school building was completed. In 1882 Rev. Mr. Wilkinson was preacher to a society of sixty-one members, who purchased the Union Church building at Sheriff's sale, and were owners in 1882. The Harvard and Glenville classes were organized in May, 1872. In April, 1873, Rev. E. J. Willis was sent by the conference to the Harvard Circuit, which comprised all of Clay County. First Quarterly Conference of this church was held at Harvard June 21, 1873. Soon after this conference, the southern portion of the county was organized into the Little Sandy Circuit, Rev. Mr. Penny, (supply). There were, in 1882, twenty appointments in the county, with a membership of over 500. The preachers in charge since 1879 are named as follows: — Stevens, E. Wilkinson, S. B. Clay, J. K. Maxfield, — Rippetoe, — Markle, J. B. Pinckard and Mr. Jones.

The Presbyterian Society was organized January 13, 1878, with fourteen members by Rev. A. M. Dickson, of Edgar, and Rev. H. M. Getner, of Aurora. At this time E. H. Nye was chosen elder, H. R. Wheeler, T. A. Barbour, C. H. De Groff, L. A. Campbell and W. H. Chadwick, trustees. In June, 1879, a church house was commenced, and during work thereon services were held in the school-house or in Phillip's Hall. The society's building cost \$600, and was dedicated in November,

1879, by Rev. G. L. Little, Rev. J. L. Lower, the pastor, assisting. In 1882 there were forty-three members. Edwin Updike and D. M. Waggoner were elders; C. H. De Groff, L. J. Titus, D. J. Hume, N. H. Pontius and J. Gardner, trustees. The church was built on the "Union Plan," the society contributing most to hold title to the property. The Congregationalists were the winners, but being unable to pay off the debts, the building was sold by the sheriff to the Methodists. Mr. Lower remained with the church until it ceased to exist, many of the members joining the Congregational Society.

A Baptist Society of ten persons was formed in July, 1872, by Rev. J. N. Webb in the dwelling of C. H. Warner. The first regular services were held January 26, 1873, by Rev. I. D. Newell, who was hired as pastor. This society has not been referred to in the local press of the county for some years.

The Catholic Church of Harvard was founded here in 1879, and Father Glauber attended the mission for some years. Father Simeon succeeded, and Harvard was included in his mission. The congregation purchased the old Presbyterian Church house and refitted it for the purposes of Catholic worship.

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church was organized September 20, 1881, by Rev. John Greenwood, of Hastings. The officers chosen were John D. Hayes and D. Nichols, wardens, N. H. Lewis, F. L. Foreman and William Newton, vestrymen; W. H. Canfield, treasurer, and W. E. Orwin, secretary.

The Union Sunday-school dates back to the fall of 1872, when a class was organized in Alex. Meston's dwelling. Services were held in Sawtell's Hall until the school building was completed, and there until 1879-80, when denominational classes were formed, the Presbyterians leaving the Union in January, 1879. In January, 1881, the Methodists left the Union.

In the early months of 1872, when Harvard comprised but four or five small buildings. Rev. D. B. Perry, a Congregational minister then recently graduated from Yale University, now president of Doane College, had for his parish the whole of Hamilton County. He extended his field into Clay enough to include Harvard and Sutton. Services

were held on alternate Sabbaths, first in a railroad car, then in a private house. A Congregational church was organized July 13, 1873, with the following members: J. P. Todd, Alex. Meston, Mrs. Agnes Meston, C. H. Miner, W. A. McLeon, E. L. Brown and Margaret E. Decker. The names of clerks in order are S. Backus, 1872; L. G. Hurd, 1875; Mrs. C. K. Morrill, 1879; Mrs. C. K. Morrill, January 13, 1881; T. R. Hall, December 29, 1881; Mrs. G. E. Taylor, 1882; E. J. Moger, 1883; Mrs. Celia A. Hurd, C. R. Morrill, Henry Noyes, July, 1888; James Donnelly, January, 1889.

Names of pastors in order of services are Rev. D. B. Perry (supply), Rev. B. F. Haviland (supplied alternate Sabbaths for one year), Rev. John Gray (of Sutton, supplied alternate Sabbaths for two years), Rev. Thomas Pugh (Fairfield supply), Rev. H. P. Page (pastor February, 1887, to May, 1879). After this more than a year elapsed with no stated services.

In April, 1880, a meeting was held to consider the subject of disbanding. A motion to that effect was lost, and in July, Rev. George E. Taylor became pastor and continued to December 31, 1882. Rev. E. Southworth, April 1, 1883, resigned January 21, 1888. George R. Parrish called April 12, 1888, ordained by council March 21, 1889, resigned October 10, 1889. Rev. O. V. Rice called November 4, 1889.

A building committee was appointed July 20, 1881, with L. C. Howard, W. H. McBride, G. E. Taylor, T. R. Hall, J. Burdick and C. Rockhill, members. Under their supervision the church house was erected and dedicated May, 23, 1882. The parsonage was completed in 1889 at a cost of \$1,222.35, while the church building cost \$2,656. The number of members is sixty-five.

The Christian Church of Harvard was formally organized in October, 1883, and organized in May, 1884, with the following named members. Mrs. C. Rockhill, Mrs. M. W. Wilcox, Miss Alice Eddy, Mr. and Mrs. Neri Smith, A. H. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Gantz, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cline, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Stiles, Miss Anna Stiles, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Moore, George C. Shetler, Miss L. C. Shetler, and Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Spicer.

The pastors in the order of services were C. B.

Lotspiech, B. F. Bush, O. C. Hubbell, L. F. Van-Cleve and G. T. Black.

Mrs. M. W. Wilcox has served as secretary since organization. There are 126 members. In 1885, the church house was erected under the direction of the following named building committee: C. Rockhill, George LeBaron and T. H. Spicer.

Fairfield is the new name of the old postoffice center, known as White Elm. In point of settlement and progress it ranks with its sister towns of Sutton, Harvard and Edgar. It is the center of trade for the southwestern townships of Clay County and the towns adjoining on the south and west. Its grain market is celebrated and the surrounding country peopled by an industrious class of citizens. Fairfield town site was entered by Maximilian Reed in 1871 (northeast quarter Section 4, Township 5, Range 7). He sold this claim to A. B. Smith, H. J. Higgins, R. Bayly, Cornelius Dunn and sixteen others who proposed to establish a town here. Fairfield was surveyed for the St. Joe & Denver Railroad Company, September 11, 1874, by A. R. Buttolph, and the first sale of lots was made September 18, J. H. Epley buying the first lot offered. John Clancy was the pioneer settler on the town-site, he being manager of the boarding car, and later of the section house during the construction of the road. In June, 1872, the railroad company erected a depot east of the old settlement, this was followed by the section house; Jaynes office and lumber yard followed in the fall, and then Chandler & Aiken's carpenter-shop. Early in 1873, T. E. Broderick purchased Jayne's building and later, McPeak & Sons established a hardware store in the carpenter shop. In September, 1874, J. H. Epley and Smith & Spencer moved their stores from the old to the new town-site; J. C. Clark established a lumber yard; D. McDonald a blacksmith shop; J. W. Small a real estate office, and Hopper & Conrad a drug store.

A postoffice was established in the fall of 1871, at a point two miles northwest of the present town called White Elm, and kept by J. P. Scott, postmaster. The location of the office was changed and brought into town on June 27, 1873, at which time it passed into the hands of L. Brewer, who was commissioned postmaster.

The office, after being variously called by the citizens, was finally given the name which it now bears. Mr. Brewer continued postmaster from his first appointment up to February, 1886, with the exception of about seven months in 1881, when H. S. Gould received the commission, but gave place to Brewer January 1, 1882.

Dennison Howe succeeded Leander Brewer as postmaster in February, 1886. The appointment of Dr. Prentice, his successor, was confirmed in February, 1890.

The petition of J. H. Conrad and twenty-five others, for the incorporation of Fairfield, was presented July 1, 1878. L. F. Fryar, D. Howe, J. R. Malthy, John Epley and W. S. Prickett were named trustees. This board organized with J. R. Malthy, chairman; O. G. Maury, clerk; C. F. Shedd, treasurer; A. A. Kelsey, marshal (succeeded by P. G. Hayes); W. S. Prickett, attorney. The board passed the first ordinance on the 23d day of July, 1878.

The officers elected for the year 1879 were: Trustees, J. E. Hopper, G. E. Glass, C. Palmer, (chairman), J. R. Madison and H. Spencer; clerk, O. G. Maury; treasurer, John Biddle.

1880—Trustees, J. E. Hopper, Charles Palmer, Chairman; O. H. Judd, G. E. Glass, H. Spencer; clerk, F. H. Willis.

1881—Trustees, J. R. Malthy, D. Howe, J. Tweed, D. Murdock, chairman, and E. L. Brewer; treasurer, J. H. Case; clerk, J. C. Hedge.

1882—Trustees, W. S. Randall, chairman; T. J. Loomis, A. Broderick, C. F. Shedd and J. C. Hedge; clerk, D. Howe; treasurer, Charles Lewis.

In 1883 W. S. Randall was chairman; J. E. Broderick, J. E. Hopper, M. B. Gates and B. F. Rawalt, trustees; E. D. Judd, clerk; W. S. Prickett, attorney; C. L. Lewis, treasurer, and William Crawford, street commissioner.

In April, 1884, Henry Spencer, M. B. Gates, S. J. Anthony and A. J. Minor were elected trustees, while O. P. Alexander, W. Kentner and J. C. Clark received each forty votes for the fifth position on the board.

In 1885 Messrs. Randall, Gates, A. G. Sherwood, T. J. Loomis and D. Howe, were trustees; E. D.

Judd, clerk; C. L. Lewis, treasurer; W. S. Prickett, attorney; Thomas Myers, marshal, and E. Gates, street commissioner.

The trustees elected in 1886 were M. B. Gates, A. G. Sherwood, A. A. Randall, C. F. Shedd and Charles Lewis; E. A. Mitchell was appointed clerk; W. S. Prickett, attorney, and J. L. Epperson, treasurer.

The trustees elected in April, 1887, were O. C. Hubbell, Dr. A. J. Bacon, A. B. Smith, H. M. Goldsmith and C. L. Lewis; E. A. Mitchell was re-appointed clerk; T. J. Loomis, treasurer, and J. E. Broderick, marshal.

The election of April 3, 1888, resulted in the choice of the following named trustees: C. L. Lewis, B. J. Wright, M. B. Gates, George Avery and George J. Pielstick; James H. Brooks was appointed clerk; J. L. Epperson, attorney; J. E. Broderick, marshal; Elmer Gates, street commissioner, and T. J. Loomis, treasurer.

In April, 1889, J. E. Hopper was elected mayor; J. H. Brooks, clerk; T. J. Loomis, treasurer; C. M. Prickett, city engineer; Frank Phillips, A. R. Ray, S. H. Lewis and C. W. Potter, councilmen.

The first school building was erected in the fall of 1873, at a cost of \$1,440, and the first school taught therein during the following winter. A new school-house was erected in 1881, and the pioneer building sold to the Christian Society in the fall of that year. The new house cost \$5,000. Its position above the town commands a view of the country for twenty-one miles in some directions. It was opened by A. A. Randall, principal, assisted by Emma McKee and Alice Cooper. E. S. Detwiler, principal, with Nellie Martin and Mrs. E. W. Lewis, presided over the schools in 1883-84. In April Prof. Hursh was principal, with Mrs. Case, Emma McKee and Nellie Martin, assistant teachers. The teachers of the schools in March, 1888, were Misses Sanderson, Torrey, Emma McKee, Louie McKee and J. A. Frame, with Louis Morgan, principal. The school directors, elected in April, were D. B. Gillette and S. H. Lewis, for three years, and J. P. Nixon (vacancy) for one year. The tax levy for school purposes was 25 mills per dollar. In 1889 B. McCartney, J. P. Nixon and S. Colegrove

were elected members of the school board. At the June meeting the district was declared out of debt and a balance of \$285.47 in the treasury. The number of children of school age was 471. D. B. Gillette was chosen moderator and S. H. Lewis treasurer. J. R. McKee was appointed principal, with Fannie Sanderson, Fannie Dinsmore, Emma McKee and Louie McKee teachers. Ida Martin was appointed assistant principal and A. W. Evans teacher for the east school.

In April, 1884, the sum of \$17,000 was subscribed by twelve persons for the benefit of Fairfield College. The committee on collection comprised D. Howe, J. L. Epperson and M. B. Gates. In June, 1884, Prof. Hubbell resigned his position as principal of the Hastings schools and moved to Fairfield. On September 24, the Normal Institute was opened here by him. The College Directory, published in November, 1884, gives the names of T. P. Nixon, president of the board; W. T. Newcomb, financial agent and secretary; C. W. Henry, president of the faculty, and O. C. Hubbell, principal of the normal department. The first annual commencement exercises were held June 3, 1885. In October, 1885, there were seventy students enrolled, where a year before the register contained only twenty-seven names. In April, 1886, the college board authorized the employment of an architect to draw plans for buildings, and in July the contract for the college building was sold to W. B. Schmucker for \$9,675. Work was at once begun, and, within that year, the large brick building was completed.

The fire of March 6, 1885, destroyed the stable of Conrad & Powers and with it 1,000 bushels of grain, two horses, valued at \$1,200, and other property. The fire of April 11, 1888, originated between the Mills' building, then occupied by Newcomb & Arnold (on the site of Arnold & Potter's store), and John Tweed's store building. Within a few moments the Exchange hotel, of Mrs. Townsend (established in 1877), the Mills' building, Newcomb & Arnold's stock valued at \$7,000, John Tweed's stock and building valued at \$6,000, Thomas Fowler's building \$1,500, and Minnick & Morrill's stock \$8,000 were destroyed. The heat was so intense as to melt the iron cornices of the Exchange building

and to damage the fronts of Wright Bros'. hardware store and Bradwell & Lewis' drug store. The total loss was \$35,000, and the insurance \$11,300. A few small fires are recorded in and around the village, but those referred to were the only serious ones.

In 1880-81 the citizens considered the question of water supply in case of fire, and agreed to construct a system of tanks. The appliances provided for this purpose consisted of a well, wind-mill and force pump; three cisterns, of 300-barrel capacity, constructed at the intersection of the principal streets, and one 200-barrel cistern near the well, each being connected with the well by means of underground pipes, through which the water was carried to fill them. In each of the cisterns was a wooden pump, by means of which the water was raised into buckets, used until an engine was procured. A hook-and-ladder company was organized during the year 1881, with E. W. Lewis, foreman, and the department consisted of volunteers, all, in case of fire, being under the direction of an engineer, who was appointed by the town trustees, together with his assistant. In 1882, D. Howe occupied the position of chief engineer, and K. I. Willis, assistant engineer.

The local board of the Fairfield branch of the Farmers' Union Insurance Company was presided over in May, 1889, by H. T. Hoyt, with J. T. Lee, vice-president, D. B. Gillette, secretary, and Brewer and Ricker, collectors. A large number of members were secured.

The first banking house was established May 11, 1881, by J. W. Small and W. S. Randall. It was called the Fairfield Exchange Bank, and is engaged in general banking business, with a paid up capital of \$3,000, and deposits amounting to about \$12,000. On May 14, of that same year, a second monetary institution became established under the name of the Fairfield Bank, by a company composed of W. T. Newcomb, S. J. Anthony and O. C. Hubbell.

The First National Bank, successor to the Fairfield Bank, was organized April 28, 1886, and commenced business June 1, 1886, the stockholders being L. D. Fowler, president; George H. Cowles, vice-president; M. C. Joslyn, cashier; John E. Bag-

ley and Ira Titus, assistant cashier. The capital stock was \$50,000. W. T. Newcomb was elected president, June 6, 1888; Jacob Shively, vice-president; Ira Titus, cashier; S. C. Thompson, assistant cashier. On January 14, 1890, Jacob Shively was president; George J. Pielstick, vice-president; Ira Titus, cashier; S. C. Thompson, assistant cashier. The company own their building, which was built in the latter part of 1886.

The Citizens' Bank was established July 21, 1886, and opened August 2, that year. J. C. Hedge has served as president and C. L. Law, cashier, since that date. They, with J. L. Epperson, J. Tweed, H. S. Good, E. J. Jenkins, J. Linzen and George F. Dickson were the original stockholders. There are now nineteen stockholders. The paid up capital is \$30,000, and the surplus undivided profits \$3,500.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized August 27, 1873, by F. A. Penny, with W. R. Stevens, class leader. The class then belonged to Little Blue Circuit, of which A. G. White was presiding elder. The first members were: W. R. Stevens, A. P. Randall, Alma Batchelor, Mary J. Randall, Mrs. A. Hughes, Edetha Stevens, Mary M. Randall, W. N. Randall, W. H. Hughes, R. N. Brown, Mrs. L. J. Pearson, Mrs. E. Hardy, G. B. Overhulse, William S. Randall and Mary C. Randall.

The names of pastors, in order of service, were: F. E. Penny, E. J. Willis, J. S. Norville, J. W. Dobbs, Joseph Gray, C. L. Smith, C. A. Mastin, Horace A. Ewell, Andrew Kershaw, C. A. Lewis, J. W. Warfield and C. E. Rowe.

The office of secretary has been filled by J. O. Beck, J. W. Small, G. B. Overhulse, M. L. Byrket, Chester Wright, Mattie Hewitt and F. Anawalt. E. A. Mitchell is the present recording secretary. The church house was erected in 1877; J. W. Dobbs was president and G. B. Overhulse, clerk of the building committee. Services were continued in the depot until the school-house was completed, when the class used that building and occupied it until the church building was completed, in the summer of 1878. The church is constructed after the Gothic style of architecture, is 30x50 feet in dimensions, and is finished with stained glass windows. It cost

\$2,150. The congregation numbered 120 members in 1882.

A Sunday school was organized in the summer of 1878, with fifty scholars. W. R. Stevens was elected superintendent; the school numbered 120 members, in 1882, and was under the superintendence of W. S. Randall.

The Catholic congregation was organized in October, 1877, at the residence of J. R. Maltby. Rev. J. G. Glauber attended this mission every month, holding the services of the church in Conrad's Hall. The original congregation comprised seven families, but increased to twenty families in 1878, when work on the church building was commenced. The house was partly completed early in 1879, and finished in 1882. In 1882 Father Simeon, then resident priest at Hastings, attended this mission.

The Christian Church antedates 1878, when W. T. Newcomb and Elder T. J. Newcomb preached the doctrine of this denomination occasionally. A society was organized June 16, 1878, with the following named members: S. J. Anthony, W. T. Newcomb and Mrs. De Ette Newcomb, Lorenzo R. Chapman and Mrs. Lona Chapman, Joseph Webb and Mrs. Hannah Webb, and James H. Artrup, eight in all. The office of pastor has been filled by Revs. George Lobingier, William Sumpter, T. J. Newcomb, C. B. Lotspeich, C. W. Henry, W. P. Aylesworth and T. L. Fowler. On November 1, 1881, S. J. Anthony was elected first secretary, and holds that position to-day. In 1884 a building committee was chosen. This comprised the secretary, J. P. Nixon; G. W. Howe, Allen T. Montgomery and Jacob Haylett, and under their direction a house of worship was erected. This building was dedicated January 4, 1885 by Pastor C. W. Henry and Elder Lucas. In 1879 a parsonage was begun and finished, and the same year S. J. Anthony organized a Sunday-school of thirty-five scholars. In the fall of 1881 the old school house was purchased by this society and fitted up for the purposes of worship.

The Congregational Society may be said to date back to January 21, 1872, when Mr. J. A. Jones, missionary for the southern part of Clay County, organized a society at the house of H. J. Higgins,

with the following named members: A. S. Willis and wife, and H. J. Higgins and wife. The pastors in order of service are named as follows: Revs. John A. Jones, Thomas Pugh, — Abbott, R. R. Williams, 1883; C. E. Harwood, 1884; R. C. Morse, the present pastor. The office of clerk has been filled by the following members: A. S. Willis, W. H. Frey, M. R. Madison, K. I. Willis and C. A. Morrill. In the fall of 1872 the permanent headquarters were fixed at Fairfield, services being held in the store buildings, and later in the Brown school house. In 1874 the common school building was their place of worship and continued to be, with little exception, until March 5, 1882, when the church house, begun in 1878, was completed at a cost of \$2,800. The building committee comprised C. F. Shedd, L. C. Hodgson, J. R. Maltby, W. H. Frey, E. J. Jenkins, R. Bayly and A. B. Smith. There are now (February, 1890) 160 members.

A union Sunday-school was begun in the spring of 1872, the first meeting being held at the residence of H. J. Higgins, at Liberty farm, where it was kept during that year, until the approach of winter, at which time the school was dismissed for the winter, and, on the 9th of the following March, was started up again, and L. Brewer was elected superintendent. With the beginning of next winter, the school was disbanded. On March 7, 1874, scholars met in Brown's (or Palmer's), school house, and elected W. R. Stevens superintendent. Meetings continued to be held in the school house until the fall of 1877, when they were changed to the Methodist Church, remaining here about one year, being again held in the school house until the erection of the Congregational Church, in which the school has been kept since. Other congregations at times branched off, starting schools of their own, so that what remained in 1882 of the union school, originally started, belonged almost exclusively to the Congregational Church, and had a membership of 100, under the supervision of Lyman Porter.

In 1884, I. D. Newell was pastor of the Baptist Society, followed in 1885 by Miss E. Townsley, who was succeeded in 1886 by Rev. A. K. Myattway and he by Miss Townsley in 1887. On Miss Townsley's resignation of the pastorate, the pulpit was vacant

for some time until Mr. Clapp was called as pastor. He resigned in January 1890.

In November, 1883, the Baptist, Methodist and Congregational mission society was formed with Mrs. Worsley, president; Mrs. Small, vice-president; Mrs. Case, secretary, Mrs. Kershaw, treasurer and Mesdames Lewis, W. S. Randall, Oliver, Madison, Willis and Mason members of the committees.

T. W. Chatburn of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints preached in Hopper's Hall in April 1884. The membership of this society is quite limited but very active.

The Masonic society of Fairfield was organized under dispensation September 6, 1880, in Hopper's Hall with ten members. On June 22, 1881, a charter was granted and Fairfield Lodge No. 34, A. F. & A. M., was instituted July 26, with B. F. Rawalt, O. P. Alexander, K. I. Willis, W. S. Randall, L. F. Fryar, J. McDonald, B. R. Royce, J. W. Small, G. W. Noble and Richard Bayley officials in lodge order. The masters since 1883 are named as follows: 1883, B. F. Rawalt; 1884, W. S. Randall; 1885, G. W. Noble; 1886, A. A. Randall; 1887, J. M. Farley; 1888, W. S. Randall; and in 1889, W. S. Randall. The secretaries were A. A. Randall, 1883-84; F. H. Willis, 1885; K. I. Willis, 1886-88; J. C. Hedge, 1889-90. This lodge elected the following named officers in June, 1889: William S. Randall, W. M.; E. J. Jenkins, S. W.; George J. Pielstick, J. W.; John Tweed, treasurer and J. C. Hedge, secretary.

The Odd Fellows, as is usual, have a strong lodge at Fairfield. Messrs. Fowler, Gates and Jenkins have served the lodge as presiding officers in late years, while Messrs. J. B. Goldsmith, T. J. Fowler and J. H. Brooks have served as secretaries.

The Grand Army of the Republic Post was organized in August, 1880, with twenty-six members, by Col. Woods, of Omaha, in Conrad's Hall, and W. S. Randall was elected commander; B. F. Rawalt, S. V. C.; S. J. Anthony, J. V. C.; L. Brewer, chaplain; D. A. Keeny, Q. M.; O. P. Alexander, surgeon; W. H. Fry, adjutant, and B. R. Royce, O. of D. At a regular meeting in December, 1881, G. W. Noble was elected commander; J. W. Small, S. V. C.; J. C. Hedge, J. V. C.; L. Brewer, chap-

lain; J. E. Hooper, Q. M.; O. P. Alexander, adjutant; W. S. Randall, surgeon; B. F. Rawalt, O. of D., and Jeff. Ogg, O. of G. The society met in Conrad's Hall for about three years, when they moved into quarters in Hopper's Hall. In 1883 J. W. Small was commander, and B. F. Rawalt, adjutant; J. C. Hedge presided in 1884-85, with J. B. Sanderson, adjutant, in 1884, and I. D. Newell in 1885; A. P. Randall, commander, in 1886, with J. C. Hedge, adjutant; T. J. Loomis, in 1887, with H. M. Vanderbilt, adjutant; G. W. Flint, in 1888, with J. B. Sanderson, adjutant, and E. P. Rider, in 1889, with G. W. Flint, adjutant.

The past-post commanders of Fairfield Post, who attended the State convention in February, 1886, were J. W. Small, J. C. Hedge, George W. Avery, W. S. Randall and A. P. Randall.

The soldiers buried in Fairfield Cemetery as reported in May, 1889, are named as follows: G. W. Morecroft, Cyrus Griffith, J. H. Case, I. B. Reynolds, J. A. Trobaugh, Frank Stephenson, Horace Tibbits, T. W. White, Fred Ronzo, E. H. Prentice, W. H. Frey (O. P. Alexander's remains were removed to Pennsylvania), W. E. P. Hunt, J. W. Snyder, J. A. Webber, G. W. White, J. O. Athey, Robert B. Hale, William Smith, Jacob Tilbury and one unknown soldier. The wives of soldiers buried there were Madams G. W. Avery, Charlotte Hunt, Myra McDaniels, J. H. Case, A. Gray and W. M. Towers.

Fairfield Lodge No. 86, A. O. U. W., was organized August 27, 1886, with the following members: D. Mordock, M. D. Gates, U. S. McReynolds, E. D. Judd, W. S. Randall, J. M. Farley, J. C. Hedge, J. E. Higgins, G. W. Avery, F. H. Willis, C. E. Collins, J. Tweed, S. S. Renie, G. M. Prentice, A. J. Bacon, D. B. Gillett, C. W. Potter, A. B. Smith, G. A. Howe, V. W. Millard, S. H. Lewis, W. A. Pearman, W. J. Lowry, E. E. Gates, Frank Jobson, E. L. Bartholomew, John Biddle and J. M. Overhulse. The masters of this lodge, in the order of service, are D. Mordock, C. W. Potter, E. D. Judd, and M. D. Gates, present incumbent. The secretaries have been E. D. Judd and S. H. Lewis, and the number of members in February, 1890, fifty-five.

In December, 1889, the Women's Relief Corps of Fairfield elected Mrs. C. F. Shedd, President; Mrs. J. B. Sanderson, S. V. P.; Mrs. T. W. Kirkpatrick, J. V. P.; Miss M. L. Randall, Sec.; Mrs. T. J. Loomis, Treas.; Mrs. W. S. Randall, Treas.; Miss Sanderson, Conductor, and Mrs. J. B. Massie, Guard.

The Chorus Class organized in November, 1884, comprised J. N. Hursh, C. E. Harwood, Nellie Martin, Susie McKee, Anna Case, Ella Kneeland, Cora Hopper, L. M. Howe, A. A. Randall, L. C. Morris, Fannie Mason, E. D. Judd, W. M. Sheppard, A. B. Randall, Mary Gaylord, C. E. Collins and G. A. Houlgate.

Fairfield Council No. 1, R. T. of T., was instituted July 15, 1889, with A. T. Harrington, S. C.; J. E. Hopper, V. C.; Mrs. F. A. Harrington, chaplain; Miss M. L. Harrington, recorder; Z. Riggs, financial secretary; Jacob Shively, treasurer; G. W. Jenkins, herald; Levi Beard, D. H.; Mrs. M. Hakes, guard; A. W. Ginzey, sentinel, and Royal Woods, medical examiner. There were seventeen petitioners for charter of whom thirteen were initiated. There are now sixteen members.

The Y. M. C. A. was organized in June, 1886, with A. B. Palmer, president; A. K. Wright, vice-president, and C. A. Morrill, senior vice-president. In 1887-88 E. A. Mitchell presided, with A. Roberts, secretary. In June, 1889, C. A. Morrill was elected president; F. Anawalt and Ben Pearsall, vice-presidents; W. E. Mitchell, secretary; E. A. Mitchell, treasurer, and J. H. Byrket, librarian.

A branch of the Retail Merchants' Association of Nebraska was organized at Fairfield, in September, 1889, with William S. Randall, president; A. G. Arnold, vice-president; A. B. Palmer, secretary; B. J. Wright, treasurer; F. Anawalt, T. J. Loomis and A. G. Arnold, executive committee.

The Modern Woodmen of America, organized in 1889, with C. W. Potter, consul, and E. A. Mitchell, clerk.

The Fairfield Temperance Alliance was organized in November, 1881, with F. H. Willis, president, and B. F. Rawalt, secretary. In December a society of 350 members was organized, with B.

F. Rawalt, president; F. Malone, secretary, and Mrs. Clara Broderick, treasurer.

The I. O. G. T. is one of the oldest organizations of Fairfield. Its work has been continuous with the Red Ribbon and alliance work. The presiding officers since 1883 are named as follows: W. F. Kintner, E. W. Lewis, R. Bayly, C. H. Epperson, W. F. Kintner, J. A. Frame and Will H. Farner, in 1889. The secretaries in the same order were S. C. Maine, Lute Howe, Mrs. Howe, Ida Aitkens, Fannie Sanderson, George Biddell, L. O. Shirk.

A Union Temperance Society was organized in September, 1885, with W. S. Randall, president; I. E. Beery, secretary; Mrs. Worsley, treasurer; J. E. Hopper, J. L. Epperson, J. P. Nixon, J. J. Sperry and the president, executive committee.

Clay County Musical Society was organized in February, 1874, with S. Backus, president; A. Poole, vice-president; T. A. Barbour, secretary; Miss Dewstoe, corresponding secretary, and E. P. Burnett, treasurer.

The Reading Circle of Fairfield in 1882 comprised Richard Bayly, Leander Brewer, James H. Conrad, J. H. Epley, J. C. Hedge, Dennison Howe, John E. Hopper, William L. Howe, C. T. Mills, Sr., W. T. Newcomb, George W. Noble, William S. Randall, Ben. F. Rawalt, C. F. Shedd and A. S. Willis.

The first hotel opened at Fairfield for the accommodation of travelers was the Section House, kept by John Clancey, which was continued until the winter of 1876-77, when W. W. Wattles erected the Exchange Hotel, which in 1882 was the only public house in operation in the place. In the fall of 1879 Mrs. C. J. Yates built the Metropolitan Hotel, which she used for the accommodation of guests. The old Exchange Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1888, while conducted by Mrs. Townsend. The railroad house or Union Depot Hotel is now the leading hotel of all this section. The building was erected by the citizens and railroad company jointly. The Fairfield House or City Hotel is also a favorite house.

A. B. Smith's sorghum factory produced more syrup in 1883 (15,000 gallons) than any other

factory in the State. Other industries also exist here, such as the creamery, iron-works, etc. A few elegant brick business blocks point out the workings of modern progress.

The Merchant's Carnival* of February 6, 1890, was carried out under the superintendence of Marshal Gordinier, assisted by the ladies of the churches. The First National Bank was represented by Fannie Shively, the front of whose black dress was trimmed with National bank notes and \$20 gold pieces and silver dollars. A head-dress was also made of bank bills, the costume aggregating in all \$860. Palmer Bros.' dry-goods house was represented by Mamie Clapp; A. B. Smith's agricultural implement warehouse, by Minnie Snethen; Biles' photograph gallery, by Ida Smith; Riggs & Birch's drug store, by Sallie Riggs; the Fire Company, by Mary Munson; Broderick's blacksmith shop, by Mrs. Fred Evans; Wright Bros.' hardware, by Elva Rulon; Mrs. Brooks' millinery, by Amelia Furer; Miss Biddle's dress-making house, by Mary Atkins; C. H. Epperson's law office, by Mrs. Epperson; Phillip's jewelry store, by Lena Phillips; the Fairfield Iron Works, by Libbie Reel; the Herald office, by Cora Rider; Helton & Larimore's grocery, by Nellie Mason; Wyman & Lewis, by Fannie Mason; Frees & Hedge, by Emma McKee; the Loomis grocery store, by Nettie Loomis; J. H. Brooks' real-estate office, by Georgie Prentice; the Clay County Telephone Company, by Laura Benedict; the Titus insurance office, by Emma Wilkins; Howe's post-office store, by Emma McPeak; Dentist Robert's office, by Amy Sheppard; the News office, by Eliza Sheppard; J. P. Nixon's real-estate office, by Belle Nixon; Anawalt's grocery, by Louie McKee; G. W. Howe's grocery, by Frankie Gillette; M. L. Byrket & Son's blacksmith and marble shops, by Susie Byrket; Lewis Bros. drug house, by Ada Hurs; the St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad, by Fannie Sanderson; Minnick & Morrill's general store, by Lulu Downer; John Tweed's general store, by Belle White; Arnold & Potter, the clothiers, by Edith Smith; Fowler's harness shop, by Minnie McPeak; Fiddler's coal oil warehouse, by Flora McFadden; Gay's meat-market,

* Summarized from News report.

by Connie Brown; Cook & Brehm's meat market, by Mrs. Brehm; Cash Furniture Company, by Florence Jackson; the furniture bazaar, by Bertha Willis; Union Depot Hotel, by Amy Wilson; Prickett's real-estate office, by Nina Trobee; the Chicago store, by Cora Hart; the Fairfield House, by Lillie Dixon; Gordinier & Millard, paper-hangers and plasterers, by Fannie Atkinson; Sam Lee's laundry, by Jennie Elliott; Emrich's barber shop, by May Humphreys; Swanton's paint shop, by Minnie Jones; Cook & Brehm's ice house, by L. Marie Hubbell; Furer & Pearsall's creamery, by Miss Markley; Rossiter's shoe shop, by Wealthy Downer; Phillips & Hayden, livery, by Minnie Harris; J. H. Conrad, drugs, by his daughter, Miss Winnie; Lenzen & Son, grain and stock, by Ollie Harris; C. J. Furer, grain and stock, by Gertie Smith; C. K. Knights, harness-maker, by Minnie Case.

The entertainment was not only well attended, but everyone was fully and perfectly satisfied; the marching was greatly admired and the costumes appropriate.

Edgar is made up of all kinds of people shaped to an enterprising community by the same spirit of progress and enterprise which first suggested the building of a village at this point. There are no church towers here with bells which tolled great-grandfathers to their graves; no long lines of tombs in which lie the virtues of ancestors known only by tradition; no gray-haired friars rising up like statues before the memory; no grim sexton looking into some new-made grave waiting for the latest addition to his inanimate company—nothing of the dead past. Merchants and tradesmen are all modern, scarcely taking time to die, pushing ever onward building and rebuilding, always active. Non-existent in 1870, it has nothing of age, but claims all the grit and reality of youth.

The town site was pre-empted by Henry Gipe for the Nebraska Land & Town Site Company, to whom he deeded one-half the quarter-section upon which the town was platted. The survey was made by A. R. Butolph, in May, 1873, the railroad being completed in July, 1872. The post-office was established in June, 1872, with A. J. Ritterbush, master, who kept it in his log store building adjoining

the limits of the survey. Gipe erected the first house—a sod house—and in 1872 the depot and section house were erected by the railroad company. Charles McGowan kept a boarding house; S. T. Caldwell had opened a store here before Ritterbush, or about the time of survey. This was Mr. Ronzey's dwelling in 1885. In August Rev. F. A. Penny erected a dwelling, and C. E. Green built a store room and placed therein a general stock. In September C. F. and J. G. Glazier's general store was opened, and T. A. Hendrick's drug store established. The following winter, 1873-74, W. Rickhart's harness shop was opened. Early in 1874 J. Carlin and W. F. Whitmore erected a blacksmith shop for James Cranz, and A. Sherwood's shop was opened shortly after; Cyrus Stayner's furniture store, Whittemore's livery and A. B. Canfield's general store, were opened before the close of summer. In the fall of 1874 E. E. Howard established his hardware store; S. J. Whitten, a lumber yard; J. D. Deck, a blacksmith shop, and George Wilson, a flour and feed store. J. H. Brown became a partner of Caldwell about this time, and in 1880 assumed control of the business; W. R. Fuller's book and jewelry store was established about this time; J. W. Carson's repair and jewelry shop was opened in 1877, and G. W. Tooker's harness shop was established; in 1879 the Gardner Bros. opened a grocery store here, and in 1884 J. C. Gardner started a like establishment; Mrs. F. F. Craiger established a millinery store here in 1880; William Saxton's clothing store was opened in 1880, and Mordock Bros. grocery in the fall of 1881, they having purchased J. H. Brown's grocery department; in 1884 Gee & Pinckard became owners of Howard's pioneer harness shop; C. W. Wiley of J. D. Whitten's furniture store, started in 1874 by C. Y. Stayner.

J. T. Donohue sold the Edgar Marble Works to Henry Dare in January, 1885; H. F. Grant established his insurance office in 1882 and Chandler & Dalton their real-estate office in 1884; O. A. Avery began business in 1879; D. R. Hughes (Walley & Hughes) in 1884; Thomas Harvison in 1881; Duhling & Sons in 1884; John Whitten in 1880; Whitteley & Wright (successors of Casterline & Roberts)

in 1885; Palmer's barber shop in 1883; J. M. Cobb in 1876; Joseph Henninger in 1876; N. B. Olesen in 1881; John Oshey in 1883; Dr. Canfield in 1877; Dr. Anderson in 1879; Attorney W. B. Good in 1884; Attorney S. W. Christy in 1880; S. A. Searle in 1880. Mrs. G. A. Hull opened the greenhouse in 1883; Thomas Hazelbaker, the Commercial Hotel at the same time; J. P. Nelson his insurance office in 1879; J. W. Gunn his hotel in July, 1884; Frank Negel his tailoring house in 1884. The Miller and Jackman brick yards, north of Edgar, commenced operation in 1886.

Anderson Eller's sorghum factory, three and one-half miles south of Edgar, was producing 100 gallons of syrup per day in the fall of 1885. The Edgar Brick & Tile Company was organized in 1887. They erected a plant with a capacity of about 2,000,000 bricks per annum, using the celebrated Cotton Down Central Draft kilns. The clay at this point is admirably adapted for the manufacture of brick and tile, and is of unlimited supply. Charles Klingerman was president and S. J. Whitten secretary. The Edgar Creamery Company was organized in April, 1887, with H. F. Grant, M. Hart, George H. Van Antwerp, O. A. Avery and G. M. Mordock, members. Commodious and substantial buildings were erected and furnished with all the modern appliances for butter-making at a total cost of over \$5,000. The building is heated by steam, and all the machinery connected therewith is run by steam. The Edgar Kraut and Pickle Manufacturing Company was organized in 1888 and buildings completed in 1889. The Edgar Canning Company was organized in 1888 and the work of erecting their large buildings entered upon. The Edgar skating rink was erected by Charles Hansen in the fall of 1884. During the roller skate craze the institution flourished.

The St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad was built from St. Joseph to Hastings in 1872, and thence to Grand Island in 1876. On October 15, 1873, J. G. Prosser took charge of the depot at Edgar as agent of the St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad, relieving Agent Anderson. Andrew Ritterbush was the first agent in 1872. Mr. Prosser held the position until August 15, 1889, when A. B. Ford was appointed,

Mr. Prosser holding the office of assistant. The change was made under the company's new rules, requiring the agent to be an actual operator. The depot building was completed in November, 1888. Interiorly its finish, in hard pine, is perfect.

The Nebraska & Colorado Railroad was built in 1886. A branch runs south from Edgar to Superior, where it connects with the Republican Valley road. In the fall of 1886 W. H. Gates was appointed first agent at Edgar. D. W. Van Horn succeeded him in March, 1888.

In the summer of 1875 J. W. Gunn erected a small frame house, which he used as a hotel until the spring of 1878, at which time it came into the possession of F. Weidman, who was soon after succeeded by J. W. Wilkerson. During Wilkerson's ownership of this house he erected a large two-story hotel adjoining it, and in the fall of 1880 disposed of both houses to James Cutler, in whose possession they remained one year, when he, in turn, sold out to C. G. Hayes. During the spring of 1882 the old hotel was moved back and on its former location a large addition was built to the main house. The Edgar House was built in August, 1877, by C. F. Barrington and W. C. Ovleman. Several additions were afterward made to it, and in 1881 the name was changed and called the Sherman House. During September of 1877 another hotel was built by C. Sirini and given the singular name "Try Our House." The Commercial Hotel was carried on by Hazelbaker until March, 1889, when R. Stover took charge. The Central Hotel was refitted in the fall of 1888 and opened by W. M. Parish.

Edgar post-office was established in June, 1872, before even an attempt was made to start a town. It was kept by Andrew J. Ritterbush in a log cabin, which he had built on his claim, and which stood just outside of where the line of the town site afterward was surveyed. Soon after the town site was located, W. A. Gunn received the appointment of post-master, and the office was brought into the town, and was kept in Caldwell's store-room about three years, when it was removed to a small building which Gunn erected especially for a post-office, across the street from Caldwell's store. After holding the position of post-master for about

three years, Mr. Gunn retired, and was succeeded, in February, 1876, by W. J. Waite, whose term of office was somewhat brief. In about nine months, owing to some discrepancies in his financial accounts, in which his bondsman was called upon to make up the deficit, amounting to a large sum, he was expelled from the office and the appointment given to M. J. Hull, in September, 1876, who took charge of the office on the 12th day of October of that year. With Mr. Hull's incumbency, a change was made in the location of the office to a small frame building belonging to Cyrus Stayner, which, in 1882, was used as a barber shop. Shortly following, Hull purchased Caldwell's old store-room, in which he kept the office, but which he subsequently moved back, and was used as the Edgar Review printing-office in 1882. About two years since, Mr. Hull purchased the old school-house, which he moved to the site on which the printing-office had formerly stood, and the office was brought into that building; in this was also kept a jewelry and stationery and notion store. In July, 1884, the office was raised to the rank of third class. In February, 1887, J. W. Carson, the present incumbent, was appointed by the last Democratic administration.

The petition asking the incorporation of Edgar was presented March 15, 1875, and granted. John Glazier, A. Sherwood, S. J. Whitten, Henry Gipe and E. E. Howard were appointed trustees.

Since then the following persons have been elected to office under the village government for the various years up to the present:

1876—Trustees, S. J. Whitten (chairman), J. H. Brown, J. G. Prosser, E. E. Howard and J. P. Hawkins; clerk, A. B. Canfield; treasurer, G. M. Mordock; marshal, J. P. Hawkins.

1877—Trustees, E. E. Howard, J. H. Brown, J. G. Glazier (chairman), W. Ovleman, O. Crossman; clerk, A. B. Canfield; treasurer, G. M. Mordock; marshal, Henry Gipe.

1878—Trustees, A. B. Canfield (chairman), A. Curtis, J. G. Glazier, J. F. Evans, S. J. Whitten; clerk, J. Converse; treasurer, I. V. Howard.

1879—Trustees, A. B. Canfield, L. Porter (chairman), S. J. Whitten, M. S. Edgington (attor-

ney), J. H. Brown; clerk, C. H. Treat; treasurer, M. S. Edgington; marshal, W. Shelton. At the next meeting of the board of trustees the appointment of clerk was reconsidered, and A. H. Jones was appointed clerk and marshal. In July, 1879, Edgar Precinct asked permission to vote on the question of granting \$62,000 aid to the Nebraska & Kansas Railroad branch from the town of Edgar to the town of Superior.

1880—Trustees, J. G. Prosser (chairman), J. H. Brown, J. G. Glazier, S. J. Whitten (treasurer), E. E. Howard; clerk, A. B. Canfield; marshal, J. R. Pond.

1881—Trustees, E. E. Howard, O. A. Avery, J. G. Glazier, S. J. Whitten (treasurer), J. G. Prosser (chairman); clerk, C. H. Treat; attorney, S. A. Searle; marshal, J. Downer.

1882—Trustees, H. F. Grant (chairman), J. G. Glazier, C. F. Barrington, J. H. Brown (treasurer), J. D. Whitten; clerk, C. H. Treat; attorney, M. S. Edgington; marshal, H. E. Wells.

There was only a nominal change in the board in 1883.

The board of 1884 was re-elected in April, 1885—J. G. Prosser, H. F. Grant, M. Hart, W. H. Graham and O. E. Reynolds. W. B. Good was chosen clerk; S. W. Christy, attorney, and T. B. McClellan, marshal. The anti-license ticket nominated in March, 1886, comprised J. F. Johnson, S. J. Whitten, J. W. Carson, G. M. Mordock and C. Klingerman. The Edgar ticket comprised J. A. Roberts, J. L. Ward, O. J. Merrill, D. R. Hughes and C. G. Hayes. On April 6 the former ticket was elected. J. G. Glazier, Mrs. P. Gill, T. E. Casterline, E. E. Howard, M. J. Hull and B. L. Olds, *vice* O. E. Reynolds, were elected members of the school board. George Utz was superseded as marshal by J. W. Gunn; E. E. Howard, treasurer. Marshal Gunn made a capture of two Swedes and presented them to Judge Fuller, but a jury acquitted the accused.

In 1887 J. G. Prosser was mayor; T. Harvison, J. C. Gardner, C. M. Keand, T. Whitten, M. J. Hull and C. Klingerman, councilmen; J. P. Nelson, clerk; J. G. Glazier, treasurer; M. S. Edgington, engineer; Frank Post, marshal, and W. R. Ful-

ler, police judge. The "People's" and the anti-license candidates were almost equally matched in this contest. J. G. Prosser was chosen school trustee for two years; J. G. Glazier for three years, and C. A. Voorhees for three years.

In April, 1888, Mayor Grant received 129 votes and Prosser ninety-eight for the office of mayor. D. R. Hughes, C. F. Glazier and J. W. Hart were elected councilmen; M. S. Edgington, engineer, and J. G. Glazier, treasurer. On March 30 the vote on the question of issuing water bonds showed only seven votes against the proposition. The old school board was re-elected.

In April, 1889, T. B. McClellan was elected mayor over George H. Van Antwerp, the anti-license candidate; C. H. Treat, police judge; J. W. Boden, clerk; M. S. Edgington, engineer; Frank Young, C. G. Hays, Joseph Henninger and J. B. Seamans, councilmen.

The ordinance approved February 25, 1888, fixed the boundaries of Edgar within the following lines: The whole west half of Section 26, Township 5, Range 6, west of sixth principal meridian. The Edgar cemetery, the railroad addition to said city, running west to the west line of the right of way of the Superior line of the Nebraska & Colorado Railway, running north along the line of the right of way seventy-five feet distant from the track, following around the curve of east arm of the Y, where it intersects the west line of Section 26. Mrs. Lecta R. Hodges' addition was included in the old corporate limits under the ordinance of January 12, 1882; Grant's addition under that of July 6, 1883; the Land and Building Association's railroad addition, June 19, 1884, and on February 14, 1887, their second railroad addition, Ira C. Hodges' addition and Hart's addition were annexed. The ordinance of March 5, 1888, provided for submitting to the citizens the proposition to issue \$13,000 water-works bonds.

The Edgar Water-works were begun in 1888, and by January, 1889, the stand pipe, 122 feet in height, was completed, and the whole works completed shortly after. The bonds voted amounted to \$13,500, but the total cost exceeded this sum by \$1,500. Joseph Rogers has been engineer in

charge since the water system was completed. Water mains are laid for one mile on Main street and around six blocks, east of Main street.

Edgar Hose Company No. 1 was organized in December, 1888, with twenty-six members.

The first school building* of Edgar was built on the site of the present new school building. It was a one-room frame, and is now standing just east of the Times printing-office. School was opened in this building in the fall of 1873. The first teacher was Ira Hodges,† who received the munificent salary of \$25 a month. He is now in the hardware business at Adams, Ore. Following him in 1874 was W. R. Fuller, who taught six months for \$200. He is at present the well known book-seller of Edgar. Then came George Mordock in 1875. He is now one of Edgar's popular grocery men. In 1876 Al. Jones wielded the birch, and from all accounts he did it right well. One boy says that that was about all he did. Mr. Jones is now a carpenter in Rochester, N. Y. In the spring of 1877-78 Aletha Dixon, now Mrs. Pomeroy, was teacher. In 1877-78 Mrs. Miner, now deceased, was teacher, and, it is said, a most excellent one. Then came, in 1879, Prof. G. W. Ferree, one of the oldest and best known teachers. In 1879 the present high school building was erected, and J. D. Gerdts was installed as the first principal. The old building was sold to M. J. Hull for \$150. It became a graded school with two assistant teachers. Mr. Gerdts is now a merchant at Bertrand. Mr. Gerdts resigned in the spring, and Prof. Ferree finished that year. In 1880 Prof. Wolf was chosen principal, with a salary of \$60 a month. Mary Warren and Mary Gray were assistant teachers. He it was who inaugurated the school library that has since become such an important co-educator in the school. He is now in Germany fitting himself for a university professorship. In 1881 came Prof. Spencer, who resigned in the middle of the year and returned to Ohio, and his place was filled by Prof. Marsh, now a Methodist Episcopal minister. In 1882-83 Prof. T. C.

* From Times of 1888.

†Mrs. Julia Pond is credited with being the first teacher.

Canine, now a physician at Shickley, was principal. The schools of Edgar were presided over in 1884 by Alfred Bates, with Louie McKee, Francis Hart, Carrie E. Kirk, assistants, and Allie Carr. Up to this date the pupils had increased from 12 to 180, and the teachers from one to five. In August, 1885, Prof. M. Thrasher was elected principal. He at once introduced the high school course, which has since been scrupulously followed. He is a university graduate, of twenty years' experience in high schools, seminary and college.

The first financial institution established at Edgar was a bank started by C. P. Packer and J. W. Kernohen. After running the institution about two years, it was sold out and removed to Fairfield, the original owners becoming interested in the Grand Island Banking Company, located in the city of Grand Island.

The Edgar Bank was established by J. B. Dinsmore, E. E. Howard, I. V. Howard and L. R. Grimes, as the firm of Dinsmore, Howard & Co., in September, 1879. In 1880 Grimes retired from the institution, and in 1884 the Howard Bros. were sole proprietors and the capital was \$40,000.

Clay County Bank was established in January, 1883, with H. W. Stout, C. A. Voorhees and G. W. Updike. Since January, 1886, Messrs. Stout and Voorhees have been proprietors. The brick building in which the business of the bank is carried on, was built in December, 1882.

The State Bank of Edgar was organized September 23, 1889, with a capital of \$25,000. The notice of incorporation was signed by Ezra E. Howard, G. W. Clawson, I. V. Howard and S. A. Walker.

Edgar Loan & Building Association, organized in 1884, was reorganized February 15, 1889, with H. F. Grant, president; E. E. Howard, vice-president; J. P. Nelson, secretary; O. A. Avery, treasurer.

The Nebraska Land & Town Company was incorporated March 12, 1874, with J. W. Small, Leroy S. Winters, Dudley M. Steele, Thomas Harbine, L. D. Tuttle, Edwin H. Saville and A. W. McNeal, stockholders.

The Methodist class of Edgar was organized

with nine members by Rev. F. E. Penny in September, 1873, within the section house or the farm house of J. G. Graham. Early in 1874 the depot was used for worship; in the fall of that year services were held in the school-house, and later in the Union church-house, which they helped the Presbyterians to build and later still erected their own hall for worship. Rev. C. A. Lewis was pastor in 1884. J. R. Woodcock came in the fall of 1885. In January, 1886, a debt of \$750 was paid off. The Methodist Episcopal Church at Edgar was dedicated in March, 1880, by C. B. Lenfest.

The Methodists of Davenport completed a house of worship in November, 1884.

The Catholic Congregation assembled here first in 1872, and has been since in active existence. The membership, however, is small.

The English Protestant Episcopal Church dates back to December, 1886, when a few ladies organized St. Mary's Guild. In June, 1887, a society of twelve members was formed by Bishop Worthington, and soon steps were taken to erect a house of worship. On April 1, 1888, services were held in the new building by Rev. A. F. Whitten, and on April 22 the Bishop presided at the dedication services.

The Baptist Church was originally organized by Rev. J. W. Eller June 27, 1874, within a school-house. After a term of three months the organization ceased to be effective and it was not revived until January 28, 1877, when Rev. J. N. Webb organized a society of thirteen charter members: M. J. Hull and wife, Jesse Dalton and wife, G. A. Hull and wife, Marion Hart and wife, Rev. W. S. Higgins and wife, Cyrus Stayner, his mother Jane Stayner and sister Sarah Jane Stayner. Rev. W. S. Higgins was chosen first pastor, who continued to preach here until the beginning of 1878, when Rev. J. W. Carson succeeded him. In 1881 Rev. W. H. Wilson succeeded him, and in October of that year the work of church building was entered upon, the building commissioners being William Saxton, M. J. Hull, C. H. Warren, Marion Hart and W. P. Fulton. The house was dedicated December 15, 1881. After Mr. Wilson Rev. W. D. Hall was pastor, followed by Rev. L. W.

Terry. W. E. Pribard was the latter's successor. He became pastor of a charge at Dillon, Mont., in January, 1890. The present church membership is placed at 124.

The church clerks have been M. J. Hull, C. H. Treat, J. J. Walley, Mary E. Warren, May Warren and Dr. F. D. Sherrom.

The Baptist school was established December 22, 1881, with 114 members; Dr. E. T. Cassell was chosen superintendent.

The Presbyterian society was organized July 18, 1875, by Messrs. Nelson Robinson, J. H. Reynard and A. M. Dixon within the old school building. In February of that year, however, Mr. Robinson preached here. Mr. Dixon, the first preacher, was succeeded the same year by Rev. Ed Middleton. Early in 1877 the church-house was completed at a cost of \$2,600 by Contractor Kidd. In July, 1881, Mr. A. B. Byram was called as pastor, and entered on his duties. The original members were James H. Hazlett, Mary Hazlett, Andrew J. Long, Elizabeth Long, Samuel F. Pomeroy, Mary E. Prosser, Rebecca Howard and Mrs. Crossman. S. F. Pomeroy and J. H. Hazlett were chosen ruling elders. The house which they completed in January, 1877, was the first Presbyterian building in Nebraska west of the east line of the county. The house was remodeled in the fall of 1882 at an expense of \$500, and an organ introduced.

The Presbyterian Sunday-school was organized in May, 1877, with twenty-five members. Samuel Pomeroy, the first superintendent, was succeeded by Mr. Byram.

The Christian Church of Edgar was formally commenced April 12, and organized May 10, 1885, by Prof. Hemry with twenty-four members, and the church building was dedicated September 19 the next year. Mr. W. R. Fuller states that the original members were S. B. Montgomery, Mrs. S. B. Montgomery, W. R. Fuller, Mrs. W. R. Fuller, Charles Wales, Mrs. Charles Wales, Luther Wales, Mrs. Luther Wales, Anderson Eller, Mrs. Anderson Eller, John Dobson, Mrs. John Dobson, J. D. Harris, Mrs. J. D. Harris, Mrs. Mary Bishop, Frank A. Cook, Cliff Cook, Joseph Sigman and Jasper Taylor. The pastors, in order of service, are named as fol-

lows: C. W. Hemry, A. M. Chamberlain, O. C. Hubbell and H. I. Bryant. The office of clerk has been filled by Jasper Taylor, Charles Cook and the present incumbent, W. R. Fuller. There are fifty-seven members. The house of worship was erected in 1886 at a cost of \$1,500.

Edgar Lodge No. 67, A. F. & A. M., was created February 27, 1877, and chartered June 20. The first meetings were held in Harvison's Hall, and the officers elected were: M. J. Hull, worshipful master; E. E. Howard, senior warden; C. H. Kitridge, junior warden; J. G. Glazier, treasurer; S. J. Whitten, secretary. The organization under a charter was effected August 4, 1877, by George Lininger, grand master, the order numbering twenty-seven charter members. By 1882 the lodge increased to forty-seven members. Meetings were held in Whitten's Hall under the following officers that year: S. J. Whitten, worshipful master; G. M. Mordock, senior warden; S. A. Searle, junior warden; C. H. Treat, secretary; J. G. Glazier, treasurer; O. B. Canfield, senior deacon; Henry Dalton, junior deacon; P. G. Hayes, tyler. G. M. Mordock was master in 1884-85; J. G. Prosser, 1885, with S. J. Whitten, secretary; S. J. Whitten in 1887, with J. J. Walley; W. R. Fuller in 1888-89, with C. H. Treat, secretary.

Edgar Chapter No. 22, of Royal Arch Masons, was established June 30, 1881, in the Masonic Hall. The organization was perfected by electing M. J. Hull, high priest; S. T. Caldwell, king; S. Johnston, scribe; E. E. Howard, captain of the host; J. P. Nelson, principal sojourner; S. J. Whitten, royal arch captain; W. Ong, grand master of the first veil; J. Van Valin, grand master of the second veil, and R. Hollingsworth, grand master of the third veil. The society operated under a dispensation for about seven months, and on February 7, 1882, was chartered by the Grand Chapter, having fourteen members. The institution of the Chapter was conducted by Grand High Priest E. P. Davidson, of Tecumseh, Neb., and the following officers were duly elected and installed: M. J. Hull, high priest; G. M. Mordock, king; J. R. Kidd, scribe; E. E. Howard, captain of the host; S. J. Whitten, royal arch captain; S. A. Searle, grand master of the third

veil; J. G. Glazier, grand master of the second veil; J. G. Prosser, grand master of the first veil; G. W. Barnes, sentinel. E. E. Howard was high priest in 1884; O. B. Canfield high priest, and I. V. Howard secretary, in 1885. M. J. Hull was high priest in 1886-89, with I. V. Howard in 1887-88, and H. Dalton in 1888-89, secretary, and J. G. Glazier, treasurer, in 1889.

Edgar Lodge No. 80, I. O. O. F., was instituted in March, 1880. The meeting preliminary to its establishment was held in S. B. Montgomery's lumber office, with eight persons present, and from this meeting application was made to the Grand Lodge for a charter, which was granted March 2, 1880, and the organization was effected on March 9, 1880, in the Masonic Hall, by A. A. McCoy, who was appointed special district deputy to institute this lodge, numbering at that time fourteen charter members. D. M. Hamilton was chosen noble grand; James Hazlett, vice-grand; S. B. Montgomery, secretary, and J. L. Bradley, treasurer. The lodge grew steadily after its inception and in 1882 had a membership of thirty-two, having lost only two members by withdrawals. Meetings were held in Howard's Hall, and the society was supplied with all the necessary paraphernalia for the performance of its ceremonies, and was financially in good condition, having on hand a surplus of \$80 of a relief fund. The officers in 1882 were: A. Knacker, noble grand; J. N. Johnson, vice-grand; D. M. Hamilton, secretary; W. Defibaugh, permanent secretary; S. B. Montgomery, treasurer.

W. Defibaugh was noble grand and O. A. Avery, secretary, in 1884; J. G. Graham, noble grand, with W. H. Graham and S. W. Christy, noble grands, in 1885; L. E. Dewey, in 1886, with D. F. Anderson, secretary; J. D. Parrish and C. L. Adams were noble grands, and J. C. Story and T. E. Casterline, secretaries, in 1888. Emerald R. D. Lodge No. 24, I. O. O. F., was organized in 1884.

I. O. G. T. is one of the old temperance societies of the town. With the Red Ribbon Society, Sons of Temperance and other organizations of the same character much good was effected. J.

G. Paschall was chief templar in 1884, and Mattie Thrush, secretary.

Edgar Lodge No. 51, A. O. U. W., was organized July 13, 1885, two days after the first meeting to consider the subject. The members who joined at that time were J. W. Carson, George M. Mordock, S. W. Christy, George H. Barber, J. B. Pinckard, Cyrus Stayner, E. T. Beltz, Jasper Taylor, J. W. Van Brunt, J. F. Edgar, F. C. Whittlesey, Thomas S. Whitten, George W. Updike, Joseph C. Gardner, Charles W. Wiley, Charles G. Hayes, John B. Johnston, William H. Vasser, John G. Prosser, S. T. Caldwell, A. B. Byram, Thomas A. Hazelbaker, Reuben D. Frye, Will R. Prosser, F. P. Kreglow and Louis H. Schaaf.

The past master workmen from the organization up to the present time are Cyrus Stayner, George M. Mordock, A. B. Byram, William M. Clark, George W. Ferree and Owen Edgar; George H. Van Antwerp and George H. Barber were made past workmen by their having served three years respectively as receiver and as recorder of the lodge. Present master workman for 1890, S. W. Christy. The last named was recorder from July 13 to December 31, 1885, when George H. Barber, the present recorder, was elected. The lodge claims 100 members, and the proposition to build a hall has been favorably received. There were only eight assessments in 1889 of \$1 each on a \$2,000 beneficiary policy, which is cheap insurance.

Edgar Legion No. 20, S. K. of A., assembled pursuant to call, and on petition from Edgar Lodge No. 51, A. O. U. W., March 6, 1888, in A. O. U. W. Hall, presided over by Deputy Commander Arthur P. Johnson, the lodge was duly organized, with twenty-one charter members: Rev. A. B. Byram,* Owen Edgar, J. A. Wright,* G. W. Ferree*, H. G. Lyon, T. S. Whitten,* J. C. Gardner, S. T. Caldwell,* George M. Mordock,* H. C. Hart,* A. C. Scott,* George Barber,* George H. Van Antwerp, Dr. J. F. Edgar,* Rev. J. R. Wadeck, Frank Kreglo*, S. F. Pomeroy, G. E. Walrath, F. C. Whittlesey, F. M. Tompson. The first commander was Owen Edgar, while the charter members, marked * above, held the offices in order of legion rank. There are

twenty-nine members. H. C. Hart is recorder, succeeding H. G. Lyon, the recorder of 1888.

The Farmers' Alliance, in the neighborhood, is a strong organization. In December, 1889, the local alliance formed a corporation, and bought the Neill elevator for the purpose of shipping grain. L. R. Chapman, president; J. N. Johnson, vice-president; John Hodges, treasurer; H. Dalton, secretary; Frank Johnson, manager.

The County W. C. T. U. elected the following named officers in September, 1889: Mrs. Gill, of Edgar, president; Mrs. Pomeroy, corresponding secretary; Mrs. H. O. Tartar, recorder, and Mrs. Starr, of Glenville, treasurer.

The Young Women's Christian Temperance Union was organized in the fall of 1888.

The W. C. T. U. was organized in June, 1885, with Mrs. Flora Cassell, president; Allie Carr, vice-president; Rebecca Dare, secretary; Mrs. J. M. Cobb, treasurer; Mrs. Pomeroy, Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Frank Young and Mrs. E. Klingerman, representatives of the Protestant churches. This union, in August, 1888, elected Mrs. Gill, president; Mrs. Saxton, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. L. Hodges, Mrs. Cottle and Mrs. Scott, vice-presidents; Mrs. Cobb, recorder; Mrs. Donohue, correspondent, and Miss Warren, treasurer.

The Loyal Temperance Legion and Band of Mercy, 100 strong, marched through the streets of Edgar in April, 1889.

Hazel Dell Camp No. 700, Modern Woodmen of America; first initiatory steps taken by M. M. Noble, a deputy head consul of the order, and W. F. Beckett, and the camp was instituted August 27, 1888. The original members were M. S. Edgington, E. C. DelaPlain, Jeff. Murphy, W. B. Mahan, F. D. Sherwin, J. W. Boden, J. V. Stayner, M. P. Dawson, W. Deffibaugh, J. C. Story, J. A. Howard, J. J. Rodgers, G. A. Byer, F. L. Young, J. W. Brown, D. W. Vanhorn, R. E. Hawley, J. P. Nelson, J. A. Gee, E. C. Blowers and J. F. Edgar. The past consuls are J. W. Brown and M. S. Edgington; present venerable consul is D. W. Vanhorn. F. D. Sherwin was elected clerk when the camp was instituted, and served until the close of the year, when J. V. Stayner

was elected, served one year, was re-elected at last election, and was installed at last meeting in January, 1890. M. S. Edgington is representative. The present number of members is forty-three, with two candidates ready for adoption, six whose application are in the hands of the Head Camp, and three who have not yet applied for preliminary examination. The camp meets in Odd Fellows Hall.

Edgar Post, G. A. R., was organized in 1880. Among its members are many of the ex-soldiers and sailors, whose names are given in the general chapter. Among the commanders of this post were Cyrus Stayner, who presided in 1884; T. E. Casterline, in 1886; C. H. Treat, in 1887, and J. W. Cottle, in 1888-89. J. J. Walley, who was adjutant in 1884, was succeeded by A. B. Chandler, who in turn gave place to Walley, who held the position in 1889.

The Sons of Veterans claimed the following named officers in 1884: W. N. McCalla, captain; L. W. Stayner and G. C. James, lieutenants, and J. E. Baker, orderly sergeant, in 1884.

The Edgar Cornet Band was incorporated in September, 1885, with W. H. Duhling president, and J. V. Stayner secretary.

The Edgar Board of Trade was organized in April, 1887, with H. F. Grant, president; E. E. Howard, vice-president; M. J. Hull, secretary, and H. W. Stout, treasurer.

Glenville is located on the contiguous corners of the original pre-emption claims of R. S. Winters, Daniel Fitch and Robert Thompson. In July, 1872, the railroad was completed to this point and the depot and section house erected, the sod houses of the claimants being the only signs of habitation here prior to that date, although some distance away I. D. Newell settled in 1872. Early in 1873 a store-house was constructed by J. W. Sturgis, who offered a stock of goods for sale. In July he was joined by Charles Clutz. The village was surveyed in the fall; Bennett Cox erected a store and dwelling house, the same which became the property of David Stein and P. H. Cone. Edward Davis opened a blacksmith shop in 1878; Luke Goldenstein built a house for mercantile purposes; H.



Geo. R. Schwab

CLAY COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

M. Oliver a grain elevator, and established the coal and lumber yards. The Keystone Hotel was built in 1879 by G. Z. Fink, who sold to Warwick in 1880. He rented the building to Richard Harris and moved away. Dr. Mark A. Perkins settled here in May, 1881. The first death in the place was that of Elizabeth Carroll, the wife of George Carroll, a section boss on the railroad, and the first child born was Thomas, the son of these people.

The Baptist Church building was the first house of worship erected. Work on this building was commenced late in 1881 and completed April 23, 1882, at a cost of \$1,000. Ten years before this, in the winter of 1871-72, the school district was organized, with R. Thompson, D. Fitch and R. S. Winters, trustees. The school-house was built in 1872, and by the close of 1873 the village laid some claims to the name of town. In 1882 there were twenty-five houses, one general store, one drug store, one hardware store, an elevator and a lumber and coal yard.

A contract to build the school-house was given to W. D. Young, at that time a partner of Thompson, one of the board, for which he was to receive the bonds of the district to the amount of \$3,350, at ten per cent interest. The contract was then sub-let by Young to Ramsey, who was to complete the house and furnish all the material for \$1,200. The bonds turned over to Young were sold to New York parties, and have since been nearly all paid off, amounting, with the interest, to something like \$5,000, making that virtually the cost of the house.

A post-office was established at Glenville in June, 1873, and was kept by Joseph Kentner in Sturgis' store. Kentner held the position only a few months, and in the winter following his appointment Bennett Cox received the commission and the office was taken to his store. Cox continued post-master up to the end of 1880, and was succeeded by Luke Goldenstein, whose office was kept in his store-room.

The earliest religious services were held at Glenville in July, 1873, when a number of the young men of the town held a sort of Sunday-school in the railroad depot. But a few persons were present on this first day, and it was announced that a

similar meeting would be held on the next Sunday. When the day came wagon load after wagon load might be seen gathering in from all parts of the country to this rude teaching of the gospel. On this day the house was filled and numbers turned away for want of room. A regular union Sunday-school was organized and J. W. Small was elected superintendent. The first sermon preached in the town was by Rev. Charles Clutz, in the depot. Several congregations were organized in the surrounding district prior to 1882, who held services in the school-house and Baptist church in the village. These denominations were the Presbyterian, Rev. R. J. Smith, pastor; the American Baptists, Rev. M. Wilson, pastor; German Baptists, Rev. Mr. Crane, pastor; Methodist, Rev. F. Campbell, pastor; the Evangelical Association, Dr. Oyler, of Harvard, pastor, and the Catholics, who were attended by the priest in charge of Hastings parish.

Collin's Post, G. A. R., was one of the first organizations of veterans in the county. In 1883 W. W. Lyons was commander, and Ed Davis, adjutant. In January, 1884, Joseph Meyer was elected commander. S. M. Elder was commander and L. A. Latbrop, adjutant, 1886-87. In the latter year the charter was surrendered.

As has been stated, the Baptist house of worship was the first erected in the village, but the new organizations which sprung into existence from 1878 to 1882 sought denominational lodgings. Mr. Tanner took Mr. Smith's place as Presbyterian preacher in November, 1883, and other changes in the pastorate of the churches were effected.

In later years the village claimed a population of 300, and the business interests were represented by E. Johnson and L. Goldenstein, general merchants; Evans and Jordan, druggists; G. Z. Fink, justice of the peace; E. D. Davis, blacksmith; J. W. Sturgis, wagon-maker and E. Uden, agricultural implement dealer. Dr. Perkins was the physician of the district for a number of years.

Spring Ranche, the early history of which is related in the chapter on pioneers, was settled by James Bainter, Robert Cargill, Lewis Thayer and D. W. Evans. The post-office was established in

1870 with Lewis Thayer, master. A son of the first named, called Sheridan Bainter (in honor of the hero of Winchester), was the first child born here, the date being May 11, 1871. Edward Harper died here in August, 1864, being the first death among the settlers, and E. J. Jackson and Mary N. Cargill were married here in 1874, being the first marriage. The first school was opened in April, 1872, within James Bainter's dwelling, by Annie Foster, and the first school-house was erected in July of that year. Elder Warwick, referred to in the history of Adams county, held the first religious services in 1871, and in 1881 the Presbyterians and Congregationalists erected churches. The mills were built in 1874 by Peck & Meston.

In August, 1873, an election was held at Cyrus Griffith's house, in Little Blue Precinct, to vote on the question of aiding Peck and Meston in building a mill near Spring Rancho. The vote was in favor of aid to the proposers in ten per cent bonds for \$7,000. There were fifty-nine votes for the proposition and fifty-four against.

The Congregational Church at Spring Rancho was dedicated January 10, 1884, by Rev. C. W. Merrill, of Lincoln. The cost of the building was \$1,200, all of which was paid.

In modern times T. J. Kemp was post-master and merchant; D. Burnett also carried on a general store; Mrs. C. A. Brown, a millinery store; J. Hutchinson, a wagon-shop; A. Meston, the flouring-mills, and D. D. Condon a blacksmith shop.

Inland, a name transferred from the old town in Adams county, dates back to 1878. In June and July, 1879, N. L. Thatcher's elevator was erected. He sold his interests to J. D. Bain and W. J. Turner, of Harvard, in 1880, and they employed J. R. McIntosh as their agent. In later years the business circle comprised G. McPeak, post-master and merchant; James Hansen, hardware dealer and blacksmith; P. Egan, grain merchant and owner of elevator; Cortnance & Co., lumber and coal dealers; P. B. McFadden, blacksmith, and Dr. Blair, physician. S. R. Dillinger built the N. W. elevator in 1889. The Egan elevator is now operated by L. Butterfield & Co., with S. W. Stephenson agent. The German Church, two

miles south of Inland, was dedicated in February, 1882. The first railroad agent at Inland was G. W. Van Horn; Frank Thompson succeeded him; then came Charles Smith, who remained for two years, until succeeded by Joseph Neary, who was appointed in 1888. The depots of the St. Joseph & Grand Island and the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroads are at this point.

Davis post-office was established in 1878 with N. Nagel, master. This office was the result of a petition from the settlers between Edgar and Clay Centre.

Deweese is celebrated for the fatal railroad accident referred to in former pages and for its short lived newspaper, *The Recorder*. The land in the neighborhood is very productive.

Trumbull is the post-office name given to a point on the prairie in the northwest corner of Clay County. Ludlow, across the line in Adams County, near the H. B. Tolbert farm, was formerly the post office. On its removal to this place S. M. Walker was appointed master.

Ong is the name given to a depot on the extension of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at a point twenty miles southeast of Clay Centre. The name is as euphonious as it is indefinable, but the land in the vicinity is as choice as any in Clay County. The place was surveyed for the Lincoln Town Site Company and J. E. Ong on a tract of sixty-five acres in 1886, and two lumber yards were at once established.

Sweden is the name given to a village four and one-half miles northwest of the center. It also bears the more classical name—Verona. Here is a depot of the K. C. & O. R. R., a grain warehouse and a general store.

Eldon, on the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, east of Harvard, dates back to 1888. In March, 1889, William Stockham opened a general store there.

Saronville, on the main line of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, west of Sutton, holds a commanding position on the prairie. The church building at this point is visible for a long distance in each direction. Here were established the stores of J. Florine, O. Felix, the Israckon Brothers, the

agricultural warehouse of Lindberg & Olson, the drug store of L. Logerwell, the wagon shop of O. Thoren and the blacksmith shop of F. Wahlgren. The little village is about ten miles distant from the county seat.

Joseph Hamilton Albright. There is probably no man within the limits of Clay County who is deserving of more credit for the interest he has taken in its behalf than Mr. Albright, and the brief facts here given indicate the part he has borne in the county's development. He was born on January 2, 1838, at Windham, Bradford County, Penn., the second of ten children. His father, Peter Albright, was born in New Jersey in 1798 to Adam and Margaret (maiden name unknown) Albright, who were both born in Holland, came to America about 1774 and settled in New Jersey, where Adam was one of those who fought for liberty in the Revolutionary war. Peter Albright was educated in both English and German, and when still a young man went to Pennsylvania and engaged in farming. While here he was married to Louisa Parks, the youngest child of Nathaniel and Maria Parks, who were both born in Connecticut. Louisa was born in April, 1816, in Pennsylvania. Her mother was a daughter of Gideon Green. Peter Albright passed from this life on November 2, 1881, at the age of eighty three years in Summit City, Mich., his wife dying in Sherman County, Kas., June 20, 1888. Joseph H. Albright remained with his parents, working summers and attending school during the winter seasons, thus obtaining a common-school education, until about the age of eighteen years, when he went to Owego, Tioga Co., N. Y., where he began working in a saw-mill and there remained until August 3, 1861, at which time he enlisted as a private recruit in Company H, Third New York Infantry, under Capt. Catlin, and was immediately removed with his company to Fort McHenry, where he joined the regiment under Col. Alfred, and from there was sent to Fortress Monroe, where he remained nearly a year, his regiment then being called into action in the fight upon Richmond during the battle of Gettysburg. After this the regi-

ment was transported to Charleston, S. C., and there entered on the siege of Charleston and the reduction of Fort Sumter in 1863. Here Mr. Albright was discharged with the remainder of his company September 16, 1863, and from there returned home via New York City, but after a very short time he entered the construction corps.

This corps was with Sherman in his famous Atlanta Campaign. At this city he was discharged and returned home, but only for a short time. Becoming restless he went to Chattanooga, Tenn., where he again entered the construction corps, this being in the fall of 1864, and from this time until the close of the war he remained in the southwest and received his final discharge at Chattanooga in May, 1865, and returned home in June of the same year. Immediately after returning home from the war he purchased a farm near Owego and thereon remained until the spring of 1867. While on this farm he was married February 6, 1866, to Miss Percy M. Lane, the youngest daughter of Henry Isaac and Sarah Maria (Crandall) Lane, her birth occurring on February 6, 1842. Henry Isaac Lane was the youngest son of Peter Lane, and was born in Shandaken, N. Y., August 9, 1816, and died in Owego, N. Y., September 17, 1880. His wife was born in Schenectady, N. Y., May 11, 1811, and died at Harvard, Neb., September 28, 1885, being a daughter of Jerry and Maria Crandall, the former a native of Connecticut. He was one of the 1812 stalwarts to protect America and Americans, and was married to Miss Maria Knowls. To Joseph H. and Percy M. Albright was born a son, Fred Lane Albright, April 14, 1867, and shortly after the birth of his son Mr. Albright sold his farm and removed to Owego, entering the employ of the New York & Lake Erie Railroad, as a bridge builder, but at the end of two years he entered the employ of the Southern Central Railroad in the same capacity. After another two years he left the employ of the railroad, and in October, 1872, he removed to Wahoo, Saunders County, Neb., and from there, in March, 1873, came to Clay County, where he homesteaded the southeast quarter of Section 24, Township 7, Range 7 west, of the sixth principal

meridian, and settled thereon on the 4th of April of the same year. While a pioneer homesteader he experienced many hardships and adversities, being in the renowned April storm of April 13, 14, 15, 1873. Through this Mr. Albright had nothing to shelter his family or his stock but a board shanty 12x14 feet, and into this all were quartered; yolk of oxen, cow, calf, chickens, himself and family seeking shelter of their bed to keep from freezing. The season of 1873 brought a partial crop of sod corn, but in 1874 all was destroyed by the grasshoppers. In 1875 but a partial crop was raised on account of drouth, and in 1876 the country was again devastated by the pest—grasshoppers—and all was laid waste. In 1877 Mr. Albright was blessed with a fair crop and continued to prosper until 1880, when, on account of a severe drouth hardly anything was raised. In 1881 a fair crop, and then another year of adversity, a hailstorm, in July, 1882, sweeping all before it. In 1883 a good crop was the result of that season's labor, but in February, 1884, Mr. Albright sold his homestead and purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 16, Township 7, Range 7 west, of the sixth principal meridian, where he resumed agricultural operations and still resides. He has taken a deep interest in the political affairs of Clay County, and has been a staunch Republican ever since he attained his majority, and comes of Republican stock. This, in brief, is a sketch of the career of a man whose present substantial position in life has been reached entirely through his own perseverance; and the facts connected with his operations and their results only show what a person, with courage and enlightened views, can accomplish. His reputation for honesty and integrity has been tried and not found wanting, and his social qualities are well known and appreciated. His only child, Fred Lane Albright, unlike the majority of boys, early appreciated the advantages of an education, and eagerly sought for such knowledge as would enable him to enter a profession. While his parents were struggling to recover from the shocks of adversity, and while yet but a boy, he had determined to secure an education, and with this end in view he attended

the district school during the winter, and aided his father on the farm during the summer months. This he continued until September, 1883, when he entered the Harvard High School, pursuing his studies faithfully until the spring of 1884, when sickness caused him to give up school until the fall. During the summer of 1884 he aided his father in farming, and in September again entered school, riding horseback to and from his home mornings and evenings, a distance of four miles, during the fall and winter, and in the spring walked the same distance. The following summer he again worked on his father's farm, and in the fall worked for different parties in order to obtain the necessary funds to pay his board nearer the school, and he then renewed his studies with double vigor. From this school he graduated on June 25, 1886, and during the summer of that year worked out. The same year he entered the law office of Dilworth, Smith & Dilworth, of Hastings, Neb., and began his legal studies, where he continued to remain for several months, his means then becoming exhausted. This year he tried a new plan and engaged in farming for himself, and by the aid of his father he was enabled to purchase an outfit, consisting of a team and wagon, and with the use of his father's farming implements began tilling the soil in earnest. He pursued his legal studies during the evenings and mornings throughout the summer, working hard during the day, and a fine crop was the result of his summer's toil. With the products of this new enterprise he was again enabled to enter school, and in September, 1887, entered the law department of the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind.; and there remained throughout the scholastic year. In June, 1888, he returned home and resumed farming, and in December of that year, with what he had earned and with the assistance of his father, he returned to school and became a member of the class that graduated June 20, 1889. During the summer of 1889 he tilled the soil, but in the fall entered into partnership with a brother lawyer, J. C. Hartigan, of Hastings, and they at once opened an office in Harvard under the firm name of Hartigan & Albright. Mr. Albright was admitted to the Hastings bar October

18, 1889, and although but twenty-two years of age, the firm with whom he first began the practice of law, as a member, and with whom he is still connected, has by his untiring efforts and diligence, obtained an excellent legal practice in all the State and Federal courts. Mr. Albright's heart is in his profession, and he has a most exalted respect for its conscientious and honorable followers. He is upright, honorable and just in all matters concerning his profession, and is winning golden opinions for himself as a young man of more than ordinary legal acumen.

John H. Allbee. Being a man of determination and energy Mr. Allbee has bent the force of circumstances to his will, and in his farming and stock-raising operations he has met with well-deserved success. His birth occurred in Somerset County, Me., April 13, 1845, but he was reared to manhood in La Salle County, Ill., whither his parents, Henry P. and Louisa (Hutchins) Allbee, natives of Maine, removed when he was young. His knowledge of the world, and one might almost say his knowledge of books, was received on his father's farms, for he was actively engaged in assisting him until January 14, 1864, when he left the farm to enlist in the First Illinois Light Artillery, Company M, under Capt. G. W. Spencer. He served in the Atlanta campaign, but later was placed on garrison duty. During his term of service he took part in the engagements at Buzzard Roost, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, and the first struggle at Jonesboro. Mr. Allbee's company was under fire forty-two times in the Atlanta campaign, taking different positions in each battle engaged, but he was very fortunate and escaped without injury. After the surrender of Gen. Lee and the capitulation of the Southern army Mr. Allbee received his discharge and returned to his home in Illinois, re-engaging in his former occupation of farming. Here he remained until 1874, then moved west and settled in Clay County, Neb., where he has an excellent farm and is quite extensively engaged in raising blooded horses. A short time since he purchased a four-year-old Percheron Norman stallion named "Shiloh," which was im-

ported from France by W. L. Elwood, of DeKalb, Ill. This horse is a beautiful black, sixteen and one-half hands high, and is of perfect action. Farmers contemplating raising a fine breed of horses will do well to look at this fine animal. On March 6, 1869, Mr. Allbee was married to Miss Celia A. Thatcher, a daughter of E. and Charlotte (Long) Thatcher, natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Allbee was born near Ottawa, Ill., August 1, 1847, and she and Mr. Allbee are the parents of five children: George Ray, Marcia May, Alice L. (deceased), Ruth E. and Lena Gertrude. Although formerly a Republican Mr. Allbee is now a Prohibitionist, and has held a number of local offices in his township. He and wife and two eldest children are members of the Christian Church and he belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and is a member of George A. Oliver Post of the G. A. R. at Fairfield.

George A. Allen, farmer and stockman, Inland, Neb. This successful agriculturist owes his nativity to Toledo, Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1846, and is the son of Thomas C. and Eliza (Woolfing) Allen and the grandson of Shadrach and Mary Allen. Thomas C. Allen was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., in 1819, and there passed his early life. He was a graduate of the military school, and ranked as a major. He settled in Toledo, Ohio, in 1826, and engaged as civil engineer, architect and builder. He was married in 1842 to Miss Woolfing, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., born in 1818, and the result of this union was the birth of four children: Albert S. (living at Fort Wayne, Ind.), George A., Margaret (now Mrs. Beverly, of Toledo) and Thomas J. (living at Sylvania, Ohio). The mother of these children died in 1863. Thomas C. Allen was married previous to his union with our subject's mother, to Miss Catherine Dabber, and one child was born to this union, Charles L. (who now resides at La Grange, Ind.) The father died in Toledo in 1854. Both he and his last wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. George A. Allen remained in Toledo, Ohio, until about fourteen years of age, and then immigrated to St. Louis, Mo., where he engaged in the nursery business and attended school until sixteen

years of age. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Seventh Indiana Cavalry, under Col. Shanks, and served in the battles of Okolona, Port Gibson, Grand Gulf and Guntown, Miss. He was in Gen. Alfred Pleasanton's command in 1864, while engaged in chasing Gen. Price out of Missouri, and was with Gen. A. J. Smith at Franklin, Tenn. He was sent with the regiment to Texas in 1865, was mustered out in February, 1866, and was discharged in March of the same year at Indianapolis, Ind. He received a gunshot wound in the left leg on June 10, 1864, at Guntown, Miss., and was out of active service for about three months. At the cessation of hostilities Mr. Allen went to farming and in the winter taught school. He was married in 1871 in Sturgis, St. Joseph County, Mich., to Miss Alice Fuller, daughter of E. W. and Lois L. (Savery) Fuller. Mr. Allen immigrated to Clay County, Neb., in 1873, settled where he now resides, and took up 160 acres of good land, which he immediately commenced to improve. He now has a fine place and is one of the prominent men of the county. In politics he is a Republican. He has held a number of offices in the township and has been a member of the school board for ten years. He is a member of the G. A. R. at Harvard, Clay County. The nine children born to his marriage are named as follows: Theodore M., Frank, Margaret, Ozoro, Susan L., Thomas E., Lydia L., Martha A. and Ephraim D.

Erastus Austin, an old and honored pioneer citizen of Harvard, Neb., was born in Austinburg, Ashtabula County, Ohio, September 15, 1817, and was the son of Roswell and Mercy (Strong) Austin, both natives of Hartford, Conn. They were the parents of seven children, four sons, two of whom are now living. The paternal grandfather of our subject was named Eliphet Austin, and his maternal grandfather Pomeroy Strong. The early life of Erastus Austin was passed on a farm in his native township of Austinburg, which was named in honor of his grandfather who had settled there in 1794, and in addition to a district school education he attended Grand River Institute of Ashtabula County, Ohio, for eight months. At the age of eighteen years he taught one term of school and when

twenty years of age he came westward to Hancock County, Ill., where he married September 12, 1842, Miss Phoebe J. Woolsey. In 1847 he removed to Chicago and in the spring of 1856 located in Henry County, Ill., where he resided until 1871. While there he followed the drug business until 1862, when in August of that year he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Twenty fourth Illinois Regiment, with which he served until the close of the war. He was in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Jackson, Spanish Fort, Mobile and others. Returning home after the war he was elected justice of the peace, and served in that capacity until 1871. In that year he came to Nebraska and took a 160 acre homestead in Harvard Township, Clay County. He resided on this until 1887 when he located in Harvard where he has since remained. In 1876 he was elected justice of the peace and discharged the duties incumbent on that office for three years. In 1887 he was appointed to that office and still fills the position. Mr. Austin and wife have had four children: Lavenia S., Mercy S., Charles H. and Lewis B., all now living except the eldest. Mr. Austin is a member of the G. A. R. and I. O. O. F. In politics he is a Republican. Phoebe J. (Woolsey) Austin, the wife of Mr. Austin, was born in Marlborough, Ulster County, N. Y., April 10, 1817, and is the daughter of Henry and Loretta (Ketchum) Woolsey, the former a native of Ulster County, N. Y., born July 7, 1758, and the latter a native of Westchester County, N. Y., born February 19, 1775. Henry Woolsey served in the Revolutionary War under Gen. Washington. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Austin were John and Clorine (Peck) Woolsey, the former a native of Ulster County, N. Y., and the latter born near Stanford, Conn. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Austin were Zopher and Asenath (Bugby) Ketchum. Mrs. Austin's parents had ten children, of whom three daughters and one son are living. The father died on February 7, 1838, and the mother in August, 1846. The American branch of the Woolsey family, of whom Mrs. Austin is a member, has descended from Cardinal Woolsey of England, whose two sons immigrated to America from that country.

John Ayton, butcher, Harvard, Neb. It is an invariable rule that those merchants who acquire the greatest popularity have based their claims to public favor not only on the superior quality of their wares, but also upon sterling business principles, to which double cause is traceable the success of Mr. Ayton. This gentleman was originally from England, his birth occurring on December 5, 1849, and is the son of William and Emily (Smith) Ayton, who were born, reared and married in England, and who received their final summons in their native country. John Ayton was the eighth of thirteen children, ten of whom are living, and of whom three sons and one daughter came to the United States. He was reared to manhood in his native parish of Gissing, County Norfolk, and in early life learned the shoemaker's trade. He also labored some time at the carpenter's trade with his father, and in 1871, accompanied by two brothers and a sister, he came to America, settling first at Burlington, Iowa. A few weeks later our subject came on westward to Henry County, Iowa, worked during the summer in a stone quarry, and then, in 1871, immigrated to Nebraska, where he took an eighty-acre homestead in Fillmore County. He was married August 14, 1877, to Agnes Matters, a native of Scotland and the daughter of Thomas Matters. She is a sister of Thomas H. Matters, of Harvard. For two years after his marriage Mr. Ayton resided on his homestead, and then, in 1880, removed to Harvard, where he has since made his home. Here his chief attention has been given to the butcher's trade, and he is now part owner of one of the best meat markets in Harvard, being a member of the firm of Hartman & Ayton. Mr. and Mrs. Ayton have had five children: William T., Agnes E., Robert H., Alexander and Milly. Alexander died at the age of six months. Mr. Ayton is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W., and in politics is a Republican. He is a successful business man.

Louis S. Backus, musical instrument and agricultural-implement dealer, Harvard, Neb. This prominent business man was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 26, 1842, and was the youngest child of the second marriage of Erastus Backus.

The father was born in Brandon, Vt., in 1795, and was of Scottish parentage. Early in life he was a teacher of vocal music, but in later years engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married first to Miss Oliver, who bore him five children, three of whom lived to maturity, but only one, Cornelius, now living. His second marriage was in 1827 to Miss Sallie M. Hill, daughter of Mr. Hill, of Marley, St. Lawrence County, N. Y.; five children were the fruits of this union, only three now living: Eunice (residing in St. Lawrence County, N. Y.), Cynthia (living in Reedsborough, N. Y.) and Louis S. (the subject of this sketch.) The mother of these children was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and died in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1842. Mr. Backus was married again in 1843 to Miss Sophronia Palmer, of the same county, and five children were also born to this union: Erastus P., Silas W. (died in 1873), George T., Fester L. and Lester L. Erastus is now sheriff of St. Lawrence County, N. Y.; Fester L. is an attorney at Brooklyn, N. Y., and Lester is at Beloit, Wis. Mr. Backus died in 1860. He was a member of the Congregational Church, and in politics was an Abolitionist. He was with the Republican party and was one of the first supporters of J. C. Fremont, "The Pathfinder." Louis S. Backus passed his youthful days in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and had the advantages of a good common-school education. In the spring of 1861 he enlisted in Company L, Thirty-third New York State Guards, and was mustered out in June on account of the Government not being able to furnish arms. He again enlisted August 13, 1861, in Company C, Sixtieth New York Volunteer Infantry, for three years, and participated in the following battles: Second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, where, May 3, 1863, he was wounded in the left arm by a shell and was sent to Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D. C., where he remained until July. He then returned to his regiment, which was near Harper's Ferry, and at Lookout Mountain he received a gunshot wound in the right leg, he being so close that the wadding of the gun lodged in his leg. He then returned home and remained there until the last of September, suf

fering all the time from his wound not having been dressed when it should have been, and having the bones working out. While at home he attended school and managed to get around on crutches. He received his discharge in 1864, after serving three years, and went to New York State, where he attended business college at Ogdensburg. He remained there until February, 1865, when he again enlisted, February 13, in Company L, First Frontier Cavalry, and was engaged in guarding the Canada line. He held the office of commissary sergeant and received his final discharge July 6, 1865. After that he attended college and graduated in 1867. He was married June 6 of the following year to Miss Hallie M. Farmer, daughter of Jefferson and Abigail (Brown) Farmer, and afterward worked in a music store and traveled for a music firm. In 1870 he left New York and emigrated to Illinois, where he remained engaged in teaching music until April, 1872, when he came to Nebraska. He located in Linn Township, Clay County, and there farmed for fourteen years, and also taught music. In 1887 he moved to Harvard, where he handles musical instruments and farming implements. He has a nice residence in Harvard and is one of the prominent citizens. He was elected assessor in 1889, is a member of the Congregational Church, being Sunday-school superintendent and leader of singing, and is president of the South Platte Musical Association. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and I. O. O. F. lodges.

Samuel R. Barnett, editor of "The Gazette Democrat," Clay Center, Neb. In directing the editorial policy of his paper Mr. Barnett has proven himself to be a man of good judgment, and his paper is found to be a welcome visitor in the numerous homes into which it enters. He was born in Butler County, Ky., on December 21, 1864, and is the son of William R. and Mary J. (Garrison) Barnett, natives also of the Blue Grass State. The father moved to Hastings, Minn., in 1871, resided there until 1876, then removed to Schuyler County, Mo., and there remained for three years. There the mother died and the father afterward returned to his former residence in Kentucky, where he now resides. Samuel R. Barnett improved every op-

portunity for an education and afterward taught school for about two years. In 1885 he learned the printing business and edited the "Butler County (Ky.) News" at Morgantown, from July, 1886, to June, 1887. He then came to Edgar, Clay County, Neb., in the year named, was connected with the "Post" six months, and in January, 1889, he came to Clay Center where he accepted a position as manager of "The Gazette Democrat" succeeding O. H. Holmes, as editor in January, 1890. Mr. Barnett is a Democrat in politics and his paper is the only one published in the interests of his party in Clay County. Although he has but very recently taken charge of this paper, his successful management of other newspapers warrants the assertion that under his control and conduct this journal is destined to exert an influence which shall be felt in literary circles throughout the vicinity.

George C. Barthelman, an extensive stock-raiser and farmer living on Section 19, in Linn Township, is a native of Ohio, born in 1839. His parents were natives of Germany and came to America at an early day, locating in Ohio, where the subject of this sketch was born, the eldest of seven children, five of whom are still living, viz.: George, Henry, Charles, John, Will, Mary and Martha; John and Mary died in Ohio in infancy. At the age of thirteen, our subject removed with his parents to Illinois, locating in Bureau County, where he grew to manhood and received his education at the common schools of that county, and after that engaged in agricultural pursuits. August 10, 1861, he enlisted in the United States army in Company D, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, but in March of the following year he was disabled, on account of which he was honorably discharged in April, 1862. He then returned to Illinois and resumed his farming operations, and August 10, 1862, wedded Miss Margaret J. Bowden, daughter of George W. and Jane (Smith) Bowden, natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania, respectively. The fruits of this union have been ten children, seven of whom are still living, viz.: Dora and Cora (born in September, 1867, the latter now Mrs. William Conell), Elena M. (born in May, 1869, now Mrs. John Lormer), William (born in 1871), Archie (born in April,

1877), Freddie (born in July, 1883) and Georgie (born in September, 1888). Mr. Barthelman came to Nebraska in 1873, locating on the farm on which he now resides, on which he has made many improvements, and has a good apple and cherry orchard, and at least 2,000 forest trees. He devotes special attention to breeding thoroughbred horses, and hogs (Poland-China), King and Flora standing at the head of his herd. He is a Republican and takes an active part in the support of the party to which he belongs, and at all times tenders his influence to the upbuilding of schools and churches. He has served as justice of the peace for the past ten years, and is still serving in this capacity. He is a member of the G. A. R. post at Clay Center, also of the Farmers' Alliance of West Linn.

Stephen C. Beck, now engaged in farming and stock-raising near Ong, Clay County, Neb., was born in Adams County, Miss., August 2, 1842, being a son of Andrew L. Beck, who was born in Pennsylvania and removed to Mississippi when a young man, his marriage to Mrs. Emeline S. Swayze taking place there. She was born in South Carolina, and after her marriage to Mr. Beck they moved to Illinois, settling on a farm in Jersey County, where the father engaged at the brick-mason's trade. He died December 13, 1877, his wife still surviving him, making her home with her children. He was a Democrat in politics, and was buried with the honors of the Odd Fellows order. Stephen C. Beck is the second of eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom are living and the heads of families, and in Jersey County, Ill., he was reared to manhood, receiving the advantages of the public schools. He remained with his father until he attained his majority, after which he farmed for himself for a few years in Jersey County. From this State he moved to Missouri, and in 1870 located in Livingston County, where he farmed for three years. In 1872 he homesteaded 160 acres of land in Clay County, Neb., but is now the owner of 240 acres, mostly under fence. He has a good and substantial residence, fair outbuildings, a fine orchard of over 200 trees, which affords them an abundance of fruit, and he also raises a nice variety of small

fruits. Mr. Beck feeds from one to three car-loads of stock each winter, and is a man of progressive views, sure to make his mark wherever he may choose to locate. He is a Republican in politics and takes an active part in political questions of the day. He has served in several local offices of honor and trust, and was at one time assessor and census enumerator, and has often been a delegate to county and district conventions. He was married in Jersey County, Ill., January 24, 1869, to Miss Emma G. Bull, a native of Connecticut, reared and educated in Illinois and the city of St. Louis, a daughter of Horace Bull, now a resident of Shelton, Neb. To this union a family of six children have been born: Herbert, William, Lulu, Stephen E., Emma R. and Fannie E.; the latter died September 22, 1884. Mr. Beck is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the A. O. U. W., and belongs to the G. A. R. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Daniel Bermond, farmer and stock-raiser. Within the limits of Clay County there is not a person of greater personal popularity than Daniel Bermond, a man of recognized worth and substantial, progressive spirit. Of German extraction, he was born in Fulton County, Pa., in 1848, and is the son of John and Margaret (James) Bermond, natives of Germany, and the grandson of John Bermond, Sr. The father of our subject was born in 1798, was married in that country, and in 1835 emigrated to the United States, settling in Franklin County, Pa., where he lived for five years, and then moved to Fulton County of the same State, where his death occurred in 1884. The mother died in 1886. Both were members of the German Reformed Church. Their family consisted of the following children: Jacob, Mary, Elizabeth (born in Germany), Martha, John, Margaret, Daniel (deceased), Louisa, Catherine (deceased), George, Daniel and Henry. The father of these children followed farming after coming to this country and was a weaver by trade. Daniel Bermond spent his school days in Pennsylvania, immigrated to Illinois in the spring of 1870, settled in Carroll County, and was engaged in farm labor for six years. In 1877 he began farming for himself (al-

though he had taken up a homestead in Clay County in 1873), and in 1878 he sold his homestead in Nebraska and bought where he now lives 160 acres of excellent land. He was married in 1881 to Miss Anna Hoke, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1848, and the daughter of George and Margaret Hoke. Two children were born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bermond: Margaret (born June 12, 1884) and Henry (born December 22, 1885). Mr. Bermond is of Democratic proclivities and is interested in political matters. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and are active workers in educational and religious movements. He is a successful tiller of the soil and has a first-class farm with good outbuildings, etc.

John M. Birkner, M. D., Sutton, Neb. This energetic gentleman, who has acquired a flattering reputation as a physician, was born May 29, 1850, and is the third of five children, three now living, born to the union of Rev. Frederick and Mary (Wilkins) Birkner, natives of Germany, both dead. The father was a minister, and in 1846 came to the United States as a missionary to the Indians. He remained in the United States until about 1854, and then he and his wife returned to Germany. John M. Birkner received the rudiments of an education in the high schools at Erlangen and Speyer, where he graduated in 1873, and then entered the University of Erlangen, where he spent three years, or until the fall of 1876, when he entered the German army. He graduated at the Military School at Munich, served until the fall of 1879, and then emigrated to America, settling in St. Louis. He graduated from the Missouri Medical College on March 2, 1886, and then engaged in the practice of his profession. He served as a clerk for the Iron Mountain Railroad hospital, eight miles from St. Louis, from 1881 to 1882, and since 1886 has been engaged in the practice of his profession in Sutton. He is a substantial physician, and is doing a good business. He was married in 1883 to Miss Elvira Middleton, a native of St. Louis, and the daughter of Dr. Joseph Middleton, who was born in London, England. They are the parents of these children: Hugo, Alma and Armin. In politics Dr. Birkner is a staunch Democrat, and since

1886 has been a member of the State militia. June 2, 1888, he was appointed assistant surgeon on the Governor's staff. Socially he is a member of Evening Star Lodge No. 49, A. F. & A. M., of which he is secretary; is a K. of P., Sutton Lodge No. 75, and is also a member of the A. O. U. W., of which he is the examining physician. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 494, and of this he is also the examining physician. He is an honorable man, a physician of decided merit, and while he is not the oldest practitioner of Sutton he is one of the closest students and the best posted physician at this place.

John A. Bishoff is one of Clay County's successful farmers and stockmen. He was born in Baden, Germany, December 27, 1831, and is the eldest of nine children born to Michel and Christena (Blatz) Bishoff, who were also born in Germany, the former's birth occurring about 1800, his father being Frank Bishoff. Michel Bishoff and his wife became the parents of nine children: John A., Joseph (deceased), Magdaline (residing in Illinois), Lebold (in Kansas), Mary, Julius, Rose and Bardria (in Chicago), and Frank (who died in Texas). The parents died in Germany, and there John A. resided until seventeen years of age, receiving a good common-school education. At the above-mentioned age he emigrated to the United States, and settled in Philadelphia, Pa., where he followed the occupation of cork making. From this city he went to the State of New Jersey, and worked on a farm until 1851, when he came west and settled in St. Louis, and for some time was engaged in steamboating from that city to New Orleans, being promoted from a deck hand to second mate. At this time he left the river as the war had just then opened, and commenced farming in Alabama, from which State he was drafted into the service, and was on duty for nearly two years. He was not in active service, but was stationed along the coast at Mobile Bay as a guard. He received his discharge in 1864, and again began steamboating, and followed this occupation until 1866, when he went to St. Louis and from there to Iowa, where he worked on a farm for a short time. In the fall of 1866 he came to Nebraska,

and settled in what is now Hall County, about six miles from the present site of Grand Island, his first winter being spent in chopping wood for ties for the Union Pacific Railroad Company. The next spring Mr. Bishoff purchased a team of horses and began farming, and spent his winters in teaming, hauling wood and ties. In 1871 he took up some land in Harvard Township, Clay County, which was one of the first claims taken. He resided on this farm of 160 acres until 1886, then moved to his present place, where he has since made his home. His property comprises about 335 acres of as good land as there is in the county, and he is considered by all to be one of the thrifty and successful men of the community in which he resides. He was married in 1872 to Miss Cony, a daughter of John and Mary Hergenrother, both of whom were native Germans. Mrs. Bishoff was born in New York City, June 7, 1851, and she and Mr. Bishoff are the parents of the following children: Otto (born May 8, 1876), Albert (born April 30, 1878), Edward (born December 17, 1880), Ella N. (born September 28, 1885), Frank (born March 20, 1888) and Rose (born December 10, 1889), all these children still residing with their parents. Mr. Bishoff is a Democrat politically, and he and his wife are earnest members of the Catholic Church. The property of which he is now the owner is one of the finest in the county.

Hon. Clemens W. Bortis, representative to the Legislature from the Forty-second district, was born in Switzerland March 25, 1837, and was the third son of Ignat and Catharine (Pepper) Bortis, also born in that country, the former in 1801, and the latter in 1807, who died in 1883 and 1882, respectively. The immediate subject of this memoir received a common-school education in his native land, supplemented by a six-months' term in the Seminary at Bern, Switzerland, and was afterward chosen by Pope Pius IX as a member of his body guard, consisting of 130 men, selected for their personal appearance and high standing in the community, which was considered a very high honor. Mr. Bortis served in the guards for nearly three years, but in 1857 emigrated to America, and for about six months made his home in Chicago, working

at the marble cutter's trade, after which he moved to Morris, Grundy County, Ill., moving eighteen months later to New Orleans where he found employment in a packing house as watchman. Not liking the South he went West in 1859, and until the fall of 1861 resided in Marshall County, Ill.; then he enlisted in the Union army in Company B, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and served his full time of enlistment—three years—a part of which time he was on Gen. Grant's staff as orderly. The most important engagements in which he took part were Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Coffeeville, Champion's Hill and Vicksburg. At Shiloh, Black River and Champion's Hill he had horses killed under him but did not receive a wound himself. Owing to meritorious conduct he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and after receiving his discharge he returned to Lacon, Marshall County, Ill., where he engaged in the peaceful pursuits of farming until 1873, when he moved to Clay County, Neb., and homesteaded his present farm. By close application to his chosen calling he has acquired his present property, which is one of the most valuable farms in the county. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and is an acknowledged leader of that party in this portion of the county. He was elected justice of the peace in 1875, but did not qualify. In 1889 he was elected to the State Legislature from the Forty-second district, and is now discharging the duties of this position to the satisfaction of all concerned. He is a member of the John A. Jordan Post No. 239 of the G. A. R. of Clay Center. Miss Barbara Hacker, a daughter of Joseph Hacker, became his wife in 1866, and by her he is the father of one child, Frank. Mrs. Bortis was born in Louisiana in 1843, and died in Marshall County, Ill., in the spring of 1871. In 1880 Mr. Bortis wedded his present wife, Miss Lucy S. Diel, a daughter of Frederick and Catharine (Sneik) Diel, natives of Germany. Mrs. Bortis was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1859, her parents having come to the United States in 1850, first settling in the State of New York, and in 1865 in Indiana, where they are living at the present time. This union has resulted in the birth of three children: Anthony C., Winnie E. and Cecil G.

F. M. Brown, publisher, Sutton, Neb. Mr. Brown, born in Clark County, Ill., December 20, 1840, was early initiated in the duties of farm life, receiving his education in the common schools. At the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, in the spring of 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry as a private, and served his country faithfully and well for more than three years in the Army of the Potomac until the investment of Petersburg and Richmond, when he was discharged by reason of expiration of term of service. He then engaged in farming, teaching school and railroad building. In April, 1871, he located on a homestead four miles north of Sutton, and in the fall of that year, at the first election in Clay County, he was elected county clerk for two years, at the expiration of which time he was re-elected to a second term. At the close of this term he removed to his farm, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1880, when he removed to Sutton and was occupied in the live stock and shipping business until June, 1886, when he purchased the "Sutton Register," and has since been engaged in the newspaper business. Mr. Brown has always taken an active part in local and State politics, and has filled many positions in local and municipal affairs. He is at present police judge of the city of Sutton, and a man universally esteemed and respected. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the G. A. R. Mr. Brown's ancestors on his father's side were natives of Virginia, and on the mother's side of Kentucky.

E. A. Brownell, liveryman, Sutton, Neb. Among the active enterprises of a city like Sutton the livery business occupies necessarily an important place, contributing, as it does, to the pleasure, convenience and actual necessities of the community. The most prominent establishment of this class in the city is that conducted by Mr. Brownell, which business was entered into by that gentleman, in partnership with A. F. Brownell, February 10, 1890. They purchased a livery stable in Sutton, and now are doing a good business, having good horses and stylish outfits. Mr. Brownell was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 26, 1860, and is the son of George and Mary E.

(Lyon) Brownell, both natives of the Empire State. Of the eight children born to their marriage five are still living, and E. A. Brownell is the youngest. He was early taught the duties of farm life and received his education in the Sutton schools. He came to Clay County with his parents in 1872, and here the mother died December 26, 1888, at the age of sixty-five years. The father still lives and resides in this county. He is sixty-eight years of age. At the age of twenty-three years our subject began farming, and this continued until 1890, when he purchased the livery stable, as above mentioned. He is a live business man and is bound to make a success of whatever he undertakes. He was married July 10, 1883, to Miss Julia B. Tarbox, a native of New York State, born in 1858, who died December 8, 1889, leaving two children: Eunice D. and Frank E. In politics Mr. Brownell is a Republican, and he is a member of the Congregational Church. He has been a resident of this county for seventeen years and is an honorable man and a creditable citizen of Sutton.

A. F. Brownell, liveryman, Sutton, Neb. The well-equipped and well-conducted stable of the firm of Brownell Bros. is one of the best in the county, and not only exemplifies the importance of the town, but reflects credit on its management. A. F. Brownell is a native of York State, born July 12, 1857, and is the son of George and Emily (Lyon) Brownell. He is the second eldest of eight children, five of whom are still living, and was reared to farm labor, receiving a fair education in the common schools. He came to Clay County, Neb., in the fall of 1872, and assisted his father in agricultural pursuits until 1879, when he began tilling the soil for himself. He continued this pursuit until February 10, 1890, when he engaged in the livery business in Sutton, and started out with unusually fair prospects. He is one of the old settlers of Clay County and is a man universally respected. He selected for his companion in life Miss Jennie Todt, a native of Germany, born August 18, 1863, whom he married September 15, 1879, and who bore him four interesting children: George, Albert, Arthur and Mabel. Politically Mr. B. affiliates with the Democratic party.

Hudson H. Burt is residing on an excellent farm in Linn Township, Clay County, but was born in Meigs County, Ohio, October 11, 1862, being a son of John L. and Elizabeth (Gray) Burt, both of whom were born in the "Keystone State," but removed with their respective parents to Ohio at an early day. Upon reaching manhood and womanhood in this State they were united in marriage, and after making their home in Ohio until 1863, they removed to the State of Iowa, the mother's death occurring in Fremont County. Here Mr. Burt and his son, Hudson H., continued to reside, the latter receiving the advantages of the common schools, but in 1882 they determined to seek a home among new faces and in a new State, and accordingly came to Clay County, Neb., and purchased the farm on which Hudson H. is now living. Here the father died in 1885, having been throughout life a most worthy man, a kind father and a considerate husband. Hudson H. Burt is the third of his eight children, and in the month of December, 1885, was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Ella Finch, of Douglas County, Neb., and by her he has become the father of two bright and interesting little children: Leal H. and Pearl. Mr. Burt is engaged in general farming, is well pleased with the State of Nebraska, and although he has only lived here a few years, wherever he is known he stands high as a man and citizen.

Charles A. Bush, farmer and stock-raiser, Ong, Neb. Mr. Bush is another of those of foreign birth who have come into this county and made for themselves a comfortable home, becoming respected citizens of the community. He was born April 29, 1835, in Uslar, Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, where also his parents, Louis and Caroline (Burchard) Bush, first saw the light. There they passed their entire lives. Mr. Bush was a pensioner, having served in both the German and English armies, and lived a retired life. Charles A. Bush remained in his native country and the town of Uslar, Hanover, until seventeen years of age, or until 1852, when he emigrated to the United States, settling first in St. Louis, and after a residence there of three years, where he followed his trade of baker, he removed to Jersey County, Ill. There he tilled

the soil up to the breaking out of the war. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Ninety-seventh Illinois Infantry, Company K, and served his adopted country faithfully and well for three years. He participated in the first and second battles and the entire siege of Vicksburg, in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, Black River, Miss., siege and surrender of Jackson, Miss., and Blakely and Mobile, Ala. He was wounded in the right leg and left hip by a shell at Blakely and was permanently disabled. He received his discharge May 22, 1865, in the general hospital at Sedgwick, La., and then returned to Jersey County, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1872. In the spring of that year he moved to Nebraska, arrived in Clay County in April, and homesteaded 160 acres. Since then he has purchased eighty acres, and now has 240 acres of excellent land near Ong, all well cultivated. He has a comfortable house, a good new barn, substantial outbuildings, and a wind pump. He has a small grove on his place, two orchards, both bearing, about 200 trees, and has all conveniences. In his political views he is a Republican and has held several local positions. He was first road supervisor of the township and served as justice of the peace for about seven years. He is now serving two years as supervisor of his township, and also served seven years as a member of the school board. Mr. Bush was married in St. Louis December 4, 1855, to Miss Lena Kleinhouse, a native of Hanover, Germany, where she was reared. To this union were born five living children: Orleana (wife of William Hulbert, of Nebraska), Charles F., John N., Roy A. and Ora A. Mr. Bush is a member of the G. A. R., and he and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. They are highly esteemed and respected by all who know them.

Dr. Fletcher A. Butler is a well read and highly successful physician of Harvard, Clay County, and was born near Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill., January 22, 1854, being a son of James L. and Oletha P. (Sargent) Butler, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. James L. Butler was a son of Levi Butler who was born at Alexandria, Va., and was educated in the School

for Orphans, founded by George Washington. The mother of Dr. Butler was a daughter of William M. and Melinda (Moss) Sargent, with whom she removed to Morgan County, Ill., when a little girl, and there met and married Mr. Butler. Her father was born in Mason County, Ky., November 21, 1799, being taken to Brown County, Ohio, when a lad of ten years, there making his home until twenty five years of age, at which time he removed with his family to Illinois, his residence being in Morgan County until in April, 1866. He then took up his abode in Savannah, Andrew County, Mo., and here died April 3, 1882. He represented Morgan County, Ill., in the State Legislature for two successive terms, Abraham Lincoln at that time representing Sangamon County, and during the late Civil War he was appointed as agent to the sanitary department at Nashville, Tenn., in 1863. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for sixty one years and was loved and esteemed by all. The father and mother of Dr. Butler were married about 1845, and reared a family of twelve children, of whom he was the fifth. Nine of the family are now living and two sons became physicians: Thomas, whose residence is at Winnipeg, Manitoba, where he has an active and lucrative practice, and the subject of this sketch. Another son, A. C., has been superintendent of the city schools at Beardstown, Ill., ten years. He is at present vice president of the Illinois State Teachers' Association. Another son, John T., is at present county clerk in La Moure, La Moure County, N. Dak. Another son, Charles W., was in the Twenty-second Illinois Artillery, was in Libby Prison, in Richmond, when Gen. Grant with the Union forces captured the city. Charles came home on a furlough, returned and died in the service at the age of twenty years, being the eldest son. William, another son, is superintendent of a coal mine at McKeesport, Pa., owning the farm on which the coal mine is located. The parents of these children are both living, their home being in Neosho County, Kas. When the subject of this sketch was eight years of age he removed with his parents to Macon County, Ill., and at the age of sixteen went with them to Vernon

County, Mo., and two years later to Bourbon County, Kas. At the age of nineteen years he began teaching school and followed this occupation in connection with attending a normal school at Fort Scott, Kas., until he had completed a full course in that institution, after which he took up the study of medicine, but continued to teach during the time he was pursuing his studies, and thus acquired an excellent knowledge of medicine and surgery. He then successively attended the Rush Medical College of Chicago, Ill., the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Keokuk, Iowa, and the Louisville Medical College, from the two latter institutions possessing certificates of graduation. He began practicing his profession at Sheridan, La Salle County, Ill., April 1, 1879, and in June, 1885, located in Harvard, Clay County, Neb., where he has been actively and successfully engaged ever since. Dr. Butler is not only a close and careful student and a liberal contributor to medical journals but he also devotes much of his spare moments to literary pursuits, and in the last two years has mastered the German language, under his efficient instructor, Prof. C. F. Kolbe, professor of modern language, Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio, so that he can read, write and speak it. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W., the Nebraska State Medical Society, the Medical Society of the Missouri Valley, in all of which he is an honored member. He is a man of superior ability and he possesses an energy that insures success at whatever he may undertake. He is in possession of a lucrative practice and is very pleasantly and comfortably situated, and has one of the most attractive homes in Harvard, also owning other town property, and a half section of land in Western Nebraska. He makes a specialty of surgery and his reputation in this branch of the science extends far beyond the limits of Clay County. He is a popular and agreeable gentleman, and he and his estimable wife are highly respected and esteemed. He was married September 1, 1887, to Miss Emma Keebler, who was one of Clay County's most efficient teachers, and both are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Miss Keebler's father and mother came

to America from Wurtemberg, Germany, in the year 1844. Mrs. Keebler's maiden name was Webber, a descendant from the family of Webbers renowned the world over as among the great musicians of modern times. Mr. Keebler has been a mechanic of no ordinary degree, having invented several useful articles pertaining to mechanics and mining. The Doctor has always been a staunch Republican in his political views. In July, 1889, he had the degree of bachelor of science conferred upon him by the Correspondence University, a branch of the Chicago College of Science, a title he well deserves. The Doctor is pursuing other studies in the National University of Chicago, which when completed will entitle him to the degree of master of arts. These studies will be completed in June, 1891.

Barton W. Campbell, farmer and stock-raiser, Clay Center, Neb. Since his residence in this county Mr. Campbell has been very prominently identified with the material affairs of this community, indeed far more so than the average man. Particularly in the direction of agricultural affairs is this true. He was originally from Scott County, Ill., where he was born May 27, 1838, and is the son of Joseph and Sophia (Kennedy) Campbell. The father was a Kentuckian and one of the early settlers of Illinois, where the mother of our subject died when he was quite young. Barton W. Campbell was early initiated into the duties of farm life, and received an ordinary English education in the common schools. In the fall of 1860 he removed to Macon County, Ill., where he followed agricultural pursuits, and was also engaged in merchandising at Maroa, that county, for a number of years, meeting with moderate success. In September, 1884, he emigrated West, stopping three months at Sebeetha, Kas., and in December came to Clay County, Neb. He rented a farm in this township, and three years later removed to his present farm, on the northeast corner of Section 2, Town 6, Range 7, and is now the owner of 240 acres of good farm land, well improved with comfortable residence and substantial outbuildings. Mr. Campbell is a decided Republican in his political views, and has taken an active part in the affairs of his

township and county. He was township assessor in 1888, and in the fall of that year he was elected supervisor for Lone Tree Township, a position he has held by re-election to the present time, having discharged its duties in a highly satisfactory manner. On October 8, 1862, Miss Mary Cooper, a native of the Buckeye State, became his wife, and to them have been born the following children: Joseph W. (deceased), Charles H., Lillian W., Emma Etta, Hugh B., Claude C., John M. and Ella. Mr. Campbell and wife are members of the Christian Church, and he is justly regarded as one of Clay County's most enterprising and respected citizens.

Charles E. Canfield, a farmer and stock-raiser, living on Section 14, Township 8, Range 7, Harvard Township, Clay County, is one of the very earliest settlers of this county, and has seen its growth and improvement from the start. He came to Nebraska in 1871 and homesteaded his present farm of 160 acres in Harvard Township, and has ever since been engaged in farming, at which he has been eminently successful. He was born in Lewisborough, Westchester County, N. Y., in 1824, the second in a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters, born to Daniel and Sarah (Nash) Canfield; the latter, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Northrop) Nash, was born in Ridgefield, Conn., in 1799, and married in 1818. Mr. Canfield was a son of Cornelius and Rebecca (Don) Canfield, and was born in Westchester County, N. Y., November 19, 1795, and was reared, educated and married in that county. Their children were: Sarah (born in 1821, and died in Connecticut in 1887), Charles E. (the subject of this sketch, was born March 12, 1824), Samuel O. (was born January 30, 1827), William H. (was born October 21, 1831), Annaliza (born July 12, 1833) and Joseph (born December 14, 1838). Mr. Canfield died in New York State in 1879, and his widow is still surviving and resides in Fairfield County, Conn., at the advanced age of ninety-one years. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The immediate subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in York State and attended school at Lewisborough. In 1845 he started out in life for himself

by engaging in agricultural pursuits, and later entered the mercantile business. In 1851 he was married, choosing as his companion in life Miss Carrie L., daughter of Charles and Mary (Olmstead) Osborn, the former born in 1809 and died December 14, 1867, and the latter born in 1809 and died in January, both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She was born November 21, 1831, in New York City, one of six children, viz.: Carrie L., David (born in 1834), Clara E. (born in 1837), Kate (born in 1840), Mary (born in 1846), Libbie K. (born in 1849). After his marriage Mr. Canfield remained in New York State for about five years and then went to Bridgeport, Conn., where he engaged in the mercantile business and reared his family. In 1871 he immigrated to Clay County, Neb., settling in Harvard Township on 160 acres of land. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Canfield resulted in the birth of three children, two of whom are still living. They are: Charles S. (born November 29, 1852, who is married and has a family, and lives in Bridgeport, Conn.), William E. (born June 14, 1856, is married and has one child, and lives at home with parents) and Jennie L. (born November 20, 1859, and died February 7, 1883). Both Mr. and Mrs. Canfield are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially Mr. Canfield is an Odd Fellow, and politically an Independent, and is actively interested in all enterprises for the good of his community.

Lorenzo R. Chapman. This prominent farmer and stock-raiser is a native of Ohio, born in Windham Township, Portage County, January 25, 1834, a son of Chauncey and Martha (Maynard) Chapman, both natives of Connecticut. The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in Paris and Windham Townships, county of his birth. He was given a good English education, taking two terms in the academy of his native town. At the age of seventeen years he commenced learning the trade of a blacksmith, entering the shop of Wilson Messenger, in the center of Windham. He stopped here for two years when he started out as a journeyman, working at first under instruction, finally settling in Ravenna, same State, in the carriage factory of N. D. Clarke & Co. Here he remained for

two years when he went to Trumbull County, working in another carriage factory for a short time. In 1858 he made a trip to Michigan and Wisconsin looking for farm land, but returned home without purchasing, and in the fall of 1859 he came west to Missouri with his brother, Charles H., settling in the then village of Macon City, where he followed his trade until the spring of 1860, when he went to Kirksville, Adair County, and worked at his trade. In the fall of the same year, becoming alarmed at the hostility evinced by the sympathizers of the Southern cause, he removed, going to Palmyra, same State; after staying there but a short time he went to Adams County, Ill., where he enlisted in the Union army, May 4, 1861, and on the 24th was mustered into the United States service by Capt. Pitcher, in Company H, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, Capt. William Petrie, commander, under Col. C. F. Smith, serving in the Western division, chiefly in Missouri. While in this State he engaged in several hard skirmishes: They were under fire of the Southern force at Monroe Station while guarding bridges in that locality. They quartered in St. Joseph and fortified the city until January 24, 1862, then went to Cairo, Ill. In March they commenced operations for the capture of Island No. 10, under the command of Gen. John Pope; moved upon Island No. 10 in the night by attacking its flanking position, New Madrid. The place was defended by strong earth works, one heavy fort and six gun-boats in the river. "The Union force in front, Tenth and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, were under a furious cannonade from daylight until dark of that day, and the bursting of the heavy shells close to our heads deafened me so I have never fully recovered. The following night the rebel forces defending the town and island promptly evacuated both places and tried to escape down the river but were overtaken and about 8,000 of them were captured at Tiptonville. The Tenth and Sixteenth Illinois Regiments of Infantry were in advance in all these movements for the capture of Island No. 10. They then hastened to re-enforce Gen. Grant at Shiloh, and were under the command of Gen. Halleck during

the siege of Corinth. In the fall of the same year, under Gen. Palmer, we marched around from Missacro Settlement, Ala., to Nashville, Tenn., and remained there during the winter of 1862-63, and fortified and held the place while Gen. Buell fell back with his main army to the Ohio River, and were there without outside communication until Gen. Rosecrans returned from the North in command of Buell's army in the spring of 1863. We were on the left flank of the army, guarding a ford across Duck River at the battle of Stone River, in hearing of the guns, but were not engaged. We then took part in the Chattanooga campaign, and after the battle of Chickamauga were on the flank of the army. About this time Wheeler's cavalry (rebel) captured and destroyed a whole supply train and for about four months we were on quarter rations and nearly starved out. In the fall of 1863 Gen. Grant took command and drove the enemy from Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. We went into winter quarters at Ross ville, Ga. I was then sent back to Quincy, Ill., to recruit for Company H, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry. Soon the whole regiment came back on thirty days' veteran furlough. I returned to the front with the regiment and re-enlisted at the old camp, Rossville, and went home to Ohio on thirty days' furlough. On expiration of my furlough I overtook the regiment at Big Shanty, Ga., on the Atlanta campaign. While at Kenesaw Mountain lying on the ground in front of our brigade battery of six ten-pound Parrott guns, battery firing over our heads, the sharp crack of the guns hurt my hearing for the second time and I am slightly deaf in both ears at present. While Sherman was moving on Hood's rear at Jonesboro I went to a spring outside the lines with canteens and a coffee can for water. The spring was between the steep banks of a willow-fringed run. I filled my vessels with fresh, pure water and came up in sight, through the bushes a short distance from me, of a squad of rebel cavalry waiting for me to come up. They called for me to halt and surrender, but, as I was nearer our lines than they, it did not suit my complexion to do so. I started for camp with the best speed I could muster, swinging my hand hold-

ing the coffee can vigorously in my haste to get farther away from them. The water flew in spray all over me from the open can, while the rebel squad all discharged their rifles at me at short range, but dare not pursue as I was so near camp. Our pickets were just being put on post and they commenced firing on the rebels who got out of range in as much haste as I had done a moment before. I was not hit by any of their shots and I think now it must have been due to the dust from my heels and the spray of water from the coffee can that hid the target to such a degree that they didn't have a fair chance to aim. In a short time I arrived safe in camp, clear out of wind, covered with water and dust, my canteens all right, but coffee can empty. If captured I should have been obliged to board with Jeff Davis a while at some of his health resorts, such as Andersonville, Libby or Bell Isle, and I was never willing to accept his hospitality. We were in the charge of the Fourteenth Corps at Jonesboro and routed Hood's forces and compelled the evacuation of Atlanta by Gen. Hood's force, then went into camp near the city of Atlanta, while the army refitted for the march to the sea. We arrived at Savannah, Ga., in December, 1864, went into camp a short time, then started on the return march across South and North Carolina to Goldsboro, N. C. On the way we had a sharp skirmish at Averasboro, N. C., and a severe fight between the enemy and the Fourteenth Army Corps, where two brigades of the Second Division were charged by the enemy and nearly surrendered, but drove the enemy back on all sides with heavy losses. In this engagement the writer had two men shot by his side, Samuel A. Metcalf killed and Peter Hines wounded, of Company H, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry. We lay that night in the thick pine woods, with the rebel wounded between the lines calling and pleading in a pitiful manner for water and help. The following night Johnston withdrew his force from our front and we went on to Goldsboro and formed junction with the Twenty third Army Corps. We followed Johnston's retreating army slowly toward Rolla, N. C. While here news reached us of the surrender of Lee's forces and a grand jollification

took place. The news of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln reached us there. On this occasion the army was in a most desperate, sullen and gloomy mood, and would have fought with desperate valor. After the surrender of Gen. Johnston to Gen. Sherman we started for Washington, D. C., and passed through Richmond on the way. We remained at Washington a while and went through the grand review on Pennsylvania Avenue, and were then sent to Louisville, Ky., being discharged from service on July 8, 1865. I served through the war as a private and non-commissioned officer, being mustered out wearing the stripes of sergeant. We were then sent to Springfield, Ill., and there disbanded. I then went to Quincy, Ill., and engaged to work in a machine shop for the firm of Sylvester & Warrell. In the fall of 1865 I went to Andrew County, Mo., and purchased 327 acres of land for myself and brothers, Charles H., Robert R. and Thomas C. I worked in the city of St. Joseph in the winter of 1865-66, in company with a Mr. Dempsey part of the time, and then in the wagon factory of E. Dutton. In the spring of 1866 I returned to Hiram, Portage County, Ohio, and engaged in blacksmithing, remaining there until the spring of 1868, and returned to Missouri, with the wives of my brothers, Robert R. and Charles H., Thomas C. remaining in Ohio. In the fall of 1872 I removed to Clay County, Neb., and homesteaded my present farm, and have remained here ever since." Mr. Chapman now owns besides his home place the southeast quarter of Section 29, the north half of the northeast quarter of Section 32, in this township. March 6, 1874, he was married to Selouna A. Newcomb, born August 4, 1845, in the same county of her husband's birth, a daughter of Timothy J. and Frinda (Goodell) Newcomb, both natives of Ohio, and, not having any children of their own, adopted the daughters of Thomas G. Chapman, their father and mother both being dead. Their names are Mariam F. and Lucy I. Chapman. Mr. Chapman is a Prohibitionist; he was formerly a Republican and held the office of school director for several terms. Both himself and wife are members of the Christian Church at Fairfield.

Mr. Chapman is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He was one of the early settlers of this county, and it is by his own endeavors and hard work that he has accumulated his possessions. His home is large and comfortable; his barn and granaries are large and well filled. He has a good bearing orchard of 150 apple trees. He planted a large peach orchard of 1,000 trees, which died owing to the excessively cold winters. His home is encircled by a beautiful grove, containing 8,000 shade trees, and the 400 acres of land which he possesses is all tillable and well watered and easy to cultivate.

Hon. Samuel W. Christy, attorney at law, Edgar, Neb. This profession is the most momentous and important of human callings, and he who takes upon himself the practice of it assumes the weightiest responsibilities that the confidence and trust of his fellow-men can put upon his shoulders. It brings into play the most brilliant talents, the most extensive knowledge, the strongest sentiments, moral, spiritual, material, and its power for good or evil is vast and invincible. As a gentleman whose career has been above criticism and whose ability places him in the front rank of the western bar is Mr. Christy. He was born in Keokuk County, Iowa, June 20, 1856, a son of Samuel and Margaret A. (Harper) Christy, natives of Harrison County, Ohio. Hon. S. W. Christy was reared on a farm in his native State and county, and in his youth secured an excellent English education. In 1873, with the energy which had ever characterized his actions, he came westward, and until 1875 was a resident of Nemaha County, Neb., after which he moved to Clay County and worked at manual labor and attended school until 1877. In the fall of 1878 he commenced the study of law with a view to making it a profession, and began his studies in the law office of M. S. Edgington, of Edgar, Neb., and was admitted to the bar November 17, 1880, and was a law partner of Mr. Edgington until 1884, since which time he has remained alone. He is considered one of the able lawyers of the State, and displays much ability and sagacity in the management of the cases which come under his control. He has

always been a staunch Republican in politics and has taken an active and prominent part in the political affairs of Clay County, and in 1888 was elected by his party as one of the representatives of the Forty-second district to the State Legislature, and served with honor and distinction in the Twenty-first General Assembly of that body. He was chairman of the committee on miscellaneous subjects and served on other important committees. March 22, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Ellis, a native of Ohio, by whom he is the father of three children: Pearl M., Winnafred and Gwendoline. Mr. Christy is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. O. U. W., and has held prominent positions in each of these orders.

Elijah Post Church (deceased). On January 13, 1888, there died at his home in Clay County, Neb., Elijah Post Church, a man who had gained for himself a reputation which left no doubt as to his standing and character as a citizen. He was born in Trumbull Township, Cortland County, N. Y., September 25, 1818, and removed with his parents to Ashtabula County, Ohio, when twelve years of age. There he spent his youth and early manhood, and there he was married on October 14, 1840, to Miss Caroline Wilcox, a native of Honeoye Falls, N. Y., born on March 17, 1821. During his residence in Ashtabula County, Ohio, Mr. Church gave his attention to farming, and in about 1853 or 1854 removed to Toledo, then resided in Michigan for a few years, then in Chicago, and a few years in Mattoon, Ill. While in Toledo, Ohio, and Michigan he followed the drug business, in Chicago the commission business, and in Mattoon he was the proprietor of a hotel and also did a notion business. In 1866, on account of his daughter's poor health, he removed to Anoka, Minn. Returning to Illinois in 1870 he located in Watseka, but in 1872 came to Nebraska and settled in Beatrice, where he embarked in the furniture business. In August, 1873, he moved to Sutton, where for eight years he was the proprietor of the old Clark House, a very popular hotel at that place. In November, 1881, he removed to Harvard, where for one year he was proprietor of the Metropolitan

House, and afterward was engaged in the drug business, which he carried on until his death. His wife's death occurred on June 6, 1884. Three children were born to their marriage. The first two were each called Cordelia Emogene, the first having died before the second was born. The second one bearing that name married Rev. Thomas Walter Brookbank, a graduate of Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill., and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Brookbank subsequently served as county superintendent of schools in Clay County, Neb. His wife died January 15, 1877, leaving an only child named Belle Hurlbut, who is now a young lady of fifteen. The third and only living child of Mr. and Mrs. Church is Miss Mira Rosalthe, who occupies the family residence in Harvard. Mr. Church was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the State. In politics he was a Republican. He possessed a genial nature and had a large circle of warm friends, there being probably no man in Clay County more extensively or favorably known in the county. His life was one worthy of emulation and his memory is cherished by the public. He together with his wife and daughter are interred at Sutton, Neb.

Martin V. B. Clark, M. D., third son of David and Ximena Clark, was born in Parma, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, April 28, 1840, of Connecticut parentage. He commenced his education at the district school and pursued it during the winters at Baldwin University, and in the summer studied and worked on the farm. He enlisted under Lincoln's first call for three years' troops as a private in Company C (Oberlin company), Seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteers, on June 20, 1861, going directly from his father's corn-field into the regiment at Camp Dennison, Ohio, with which he marched a few days afterward for Virginia. He was later transferred to and was honorably discharged as sergeant of artillery of the Eighth Ohio Independent Battery. At the close of the war he returned to farm life, and was married on July 4, 1866, to Miss Mary D. Henry, eldest daughter of Robert W. and Francis C. Henry, of Parma, Ohio. Their children were Allie E., Mamie L. (deceased), Edith

and Ruth. Dr. Clark graduated in pharmacy at Baldwin University on February 4, 1867, receiving the degree of bachelor of medicine, and graduating in medicine in the Cleveland Medical College on February 28, 1869. He was professor of pharmacy and toxicology at Baldwin University, Ohio, for a period of five years, and was a member of the convention to revise the United States Pharmacopoeia for 1870. Subsequently he emigrated to Nebraska, and with his brother bought out the town of and settled at Sutton, Neb., on November 25, 1871. He is one of the pioneer physicians and druggists of Clay County. In the year 1873 he was elected coroner, served six years, and has held the office of United States pension surgeon, commissioner of insanity, and was one of the first five trustees of the village of Sutton, being twice re-elected to the last named office. He was post commander of the Sutton Post of the G. A. R., and president of the Sutton board of education. In July, 1881, he made the chemical analysis for the State *vs.* Anderson, for the poisoning of J. S. Johnson with arsenic, which occurred near Sutton. Subsequently he was employed by the State in the following cases of criminal poisoning: State *vs.* Lee, Saline County, for poisoning with strychnine; State *vs.* Rath, for poisoning with strychnine, Clay County; State *vs.* Morse, Gage County, for poisoning with strychnine, which resulted in a conviction of murder in the first degree, but owing to an informality in the verdict a new trial was granted. A second trial resulted in a disagreement of the jury, and the third trial is now pending; the State *vs.* —, Nuckolls County, corrosive sublimate, wherein a Miss Carrie Easley was supposed to have been poisoned by mistake of a druggist; in all five cases. Dr. Clark was elected to the York, (Neb.) Seminary—afterward college—as lecturer on natural science; is a member of Nebraska State Medical Society, and the Nebraska State Railroad Surgeons' Society. He has been chairman of the former in the section of medical jurisprudence and toxicology, and a member of the section in surgery. He is the assistant surgeon at Sutton for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad and Union Pacific Railroad. Dr. Clark is a careful and safe

physician and surgeon, and one of the first chemists of this portion of Nebraska.

Orville C. Clark. Prominent among the establishments of Harvard, Neb., which add strength and importance to her already enviable reputation, is the grocery house belonging to Mr. Clark, and although he is a young man and has only been in business here since the fall of 1888, he is already well known in mercantile establishments. He was born in Shelby County, Ky., on the 11th of August, 1852, and is a son of Drury and Amanda (Campbell) Clark, the former born in Shelby County, Ky., and the latter in Ripley County, Ind. They were married in the latter county in 1851, and became the parents of the following children: Orville C., Sallie, Kansas, Eva, Rosa J., Charles M. and Oda A. The father of these children was twice married, their mother being his second wife. His first union resulted in the birth of three children: John W., Thomas and William H., the first named being the only one now living. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Hendricks County, Ind., February 17, 1875, but his widow survives him and makes her home in Harvard, Neb., with her son, Orville C. When the latter was but two years of age his parents removed to Hendricks County, Ind., and here spent his boyhood and youth on a farm. His early education was received in the district schools, and in early manhood he learned the plasterer's trade. When twenty-one years of age he went to Indianapolis, Ind., and for one year was employed as a clerk in a dry goods establishment, after which he returned to Hendricks County, where he followed farming for a few years. He next engaged in mercantile pursuits in the town of Pittsboro, Ind., but after remaining there two years he came to Harvard, Neb., and after working in a dry goods establishment here for about five years he clerked in a grocery store for some nine months, and in the fall of 1888 opened an establishment of his own, being associated in business with his brother-in-law, James S. Catterson, the firm name being Clark & Catterson. They keep a full and excellent line of goods, and are in a position to meet all competition and make prices as low as the lowest.

Mr. Clark was married in Hendricks County, Ind., October 17, 1874, to Miss Romera Jesse, a native of Shelby County, Ky., born May 5, 1853. They have four children: Nora, born September 20, 1876; Guthrie D., born April 12, 1879; Claud, born December 3, 1886, and Raymond, born June 27, 1888. Mr. Clark has always been a Republican in his political views, and as a citizen no less than as a business man he has won many warm friends.

William E. Close is a native of Michigan, his birth occurring at Three Rivers in 1834, he being the eldest son of Teris and Hannah (Gray) Close, both natives of the State of New York. They were both reared and married in that State, and shortly after their marriage, which occurred when Mr. Close was about twenty-three years of age, he moved to Michigan, and here gave his attention to tilling the soil. The fruits of his married life were two children: William E. and Sarah E., the latter dying at about the age of six years. After residing in this State until about 1845 they returned to their former home and there he spent the rest of his days. He was an active Republican in politics. William E. Close obtained a fair knowledge of books in York State, and when seventeen years of age began life for himself as a farm hand in Wisconsin. On the opening of the Civil war he dropped all work to enlist in Company I, First United States Sharpshooters, and was an active participant in the battles of Yorktown (Va.), Big and Little Bethel, Chickahominy Swamp, Seven Pines, battle of the Wilderness, and many others. He was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, in the left hip, which resulted in permanent injury, and was discharged at New York City in 1863, having been in the service nearly two years. In 1865 he was married to Miss Mary A. Pester, a daughter of Josiah and Mariah Pester, and to them a family of five children have been born: Adelbert, Willie, Frank M., Charley and Martha. After the war Mr. Close turned his attention to farming in Wisconsin, and in the fall of 1870 came to Clay County, Neb., and took up his present farm under the homestead law. His land is in an excellent state of cultivation, and he is quite extensively engaged in breeding Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is

also a successful fruit-grower and is much pleased with the result of his labors in Nebraska. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, is one of the school board of his district, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Frank M. Coleman is the efficient publisher of the Edgar Post, which is one of the most influential papers in this section of the country, having been in existence since April 10, 1884. Mr. Coleman was born in Decorah, Winneshiek County, Iowa, October 20, 1859, and is the third of eight children born to Dr. William F. and Jane (Grout) Coleman, who were born in the "Green Mountain State" and Canada respectively. His early advantages were of the best and he acquired an excellent education in the Decorah Business College, graduating in 1878. Being very fond of and having a natural aptitude for music he determined to make that his calling through life, and after devoting much time to the study of this branch and becoming very proficient he began teaching, commencing his professional career by organizing the now famous Decorah Drum Corps, which carried off the blue ribbon in the contests at Waterloo, Dubuque and Des Moines, Iowa, and Nashville, Tenn., Mobile, Ala., and New Orleans, La. Mr. Coleman was next on the road for three years with a theatrical company, but finally in 1887 settled in Minneapolis, Kas., where he engaged in contracting, painting and band-teaching, but left that place in April, 1889, and purchased the Edgar Post which has since been under his management, it being now one of the representative journals of the West. On July 18, 1888, he was married to Ada L. McCumber, a daughter of E. R. and Eliza (Youngman) McCumber, who were born in Ohio and Indiana, respectively, his wife's birth occurring on November 7, 1868. Mr. Coleman is a Republican in politics, in the interests of which party he edits his paper, and he is an intelligent and popular gentleman and keeps fully apace with the times.

William Combs, farmer and stock-raiser, Sutton, Neb. There are many citizens represented within the pages of this volume but none more deserving of mention than Mr. Combs, who is closely

associated with the interests of Clay County, in every worthy particular. He was born in Wilkes County, N. C., on April 23, 1821, and is the fourth in a family of fourteen children, the result of the union of John and Elizabeth (Bell) Combs, natives of the same State as subject. The latter received limited educational advantages and remained on his father's farm until nineteen years of age, when he left North Carolina and went to Tennessee. One year later he moved to Rush County, Ind., where he remained for nine years, when he became desirous of moving farther west, and consequently, in 1839, he moved to Cole County, Mo. After remaining there one year he moved to Bond County, Ill., and four years later to Tipton County, Ind., thence four years later to Rush County, and Keokuk County, Iowa, in 1853. There he remained for nineteen years and was quite successful. In 1872 he moved to Miami County, Kas., where he remained for one year, and then moved to Clay County, Neb., where he purchased 160 acres from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. In 1844 he married Miss Margaret Legg, a native of Fayette County, Ind., and the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Ammon) Legg, natives of the Keystone State. To Mr. and Mrs. Combs were born thirteen children, eight of whom died in Keokuk, Iowa, of diphtheria, and within twenty-one days. Those deceased were named: Samuel H., Rebecca, Harriet E., Margaret, Wesley, Cecelia, Alice and Emma. The ones living are named: Thomas F., William H., Newton J., Nina L. (widow of Walter S. Wilson), and Mary R. (wife of Richard McDonald). When Mr. Combs and family first came to Nebraska, it was in its natural, wild condition, and his residence was the sixth house in the township. He now has a comfortable residence, large and substantial sheds, numerous granaries and wind-mills, and his was the first deeded farm. He has 130 acres under cultivation and the balance in pasture. He has planted a large number of trees around his farm and has a fine place. He is a veterinary surgeon and has followed this profession in the different localities where he has made his home.

John H. Croft, Sr., is a pioneer farmer of Lone

Tree Township, Clay County, Neb., having come here in 1874 from Iowa. He was born in Bedford County, Pa., March 31, 1819, and is a son of Daniel and Margaret (Hipple) Croft, natives of Pennsylvania, where they lived and died. John H. was reared to manhood in his native State, and was there married in the month of September, 1840, to Miss Elizabeth Teeter, who was also born there, and about 1845 removed westward to Iowa, and was engaged in grist and saw-milling in that State for many years, coming to Clay County, Neb., in the year above named. He purchased 120 acres in Lone Tree Township, and by earnest and persistent endeavor has achieved a place among the agriculturists of this county, which is by no means an inferior one. He has always identified himself with all feasible enterprises, and has contributed liberally of his means in their support. Although formerly a Whig in his political views, he has been a Republican since the organization of the party, and his first presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and their union has been blessed in the birth of nine children: Mary A. (wife of Lindon Coltrain), Margaret (wife of Jacob Hager), Barbara E. (wife of Andrew J. Clark), John H., Caroline (wife of Nathaniel Graham), Eli, William T., Edward, and Isabel (wife of John Kirkpatrick).

John H. Croft, Jr., is entitled to a prominent place in the history of Clay County, for he has been usefully and prominently identified with its farming and stock-raising interests and with its advancement in every worthy particular. He was born in Van Buren County, Iowa, March 16, 1850, and is a son of John H. and Elizabeth (Teeter) Croft, whose sketch appears above. He was reared to manhood and learned the milling business of his father in his native State, but at the age of eighteen years he started out for himself as a farmer, and in 1873 came to Clay County, Neb., and entered 320 acres of land in Sections 20 and 29 of Lone Tree Township, which he still owns. Farming has been his chief business, and the energetic manner in which he has taken advantage of all methods and ideas tending to

enhance the value of his property has had a great deal to do with obtaining the competence he now enjoys. Like his father he is a Republican, politically, and socially he belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. He is now treasurer of his township, and is the present road supervisor of his district. His estimable wife was formerly Miss Isadore F. Masterton, born in Spencer County, Ind., November 15, 1846, their union taking place on May 14, 1868. She is a daughter of Clark and Susan (Woolen) Croft, natives of Indiana, and by her he has three children: Adella J. (wife of Charles K. Spear), Alpheus M. and James R.

Peter Cruickshank, postmaster, Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Cruickshank, a resident of this county for over sixteen years, is a worthy descendant of an old and highly respected Scotch family. He, himself, is a native of the grand old commonwealth of Scotland, his birth having occurred there May 12, 1846, and is the son of James and Anna (Ironside) Cruickshank, natives also of Scotland. Peter Cruickshank was reared to manhood and secured a liberal education in his native country. He took passage for the United States in 1874, reached that continent in safety, and located on a farm in Clay County, Neb., where he remained until in July, 1879, when he removed to Clay Center. Since then he has been in the postoffice. Mr. Cruickshank was married April 23, 1874, to Miss Sophia Lawrie, a native of Scotland, who has the appointment of postmaster, or rather postmistress, although Mr. Cruickshank fulfills the duties of the office. To this union were born three children: James A., William S. and George S. Mr. Cruickshank is a Republican in politics, and is a member of the K. of P. He is a member of the Congregational Church and is an enterprising and esteemed citizen.

Sherwood Culver. Prominent among the agriculturists of Clay County, Neb., whose careers have been both honorable and successful, is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Morris County, N. J., December 13, 1827, and is a son of William and Rebecca (Culver) Culver, also natives of New Jersey, and of German parentage. Sherwood Culver was reared to manhood in his native State, and there

his early youth and manhood were spent in attending the common schools and in learning the brick and stone mason's and plasterer's trades, these occupations being his chief means of livelihood for a number of years. In September, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Twenty-seventh Regiment New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and was a faithful servant of "Uncle Sam" until July, 1863. In 1868 he settled in Bureau County, Ill., and there worked at his trade for some time, investing his savings in real estate, and in time became the owner of a small farm. He disposed of this property, however, and in March, 1885, he came to Clay County, Neb., and purchased his present fertile farm which he has been engaged in tilling ever since. Mr. Culver is a Democrat in politics and an anti-monopolist, and socially is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and the I. O. O. F. In the month of February, 1849, he was married to Miss Arniunda Nichols, a native of the same place as himself, but he was called upon to mourn her death in May, 1883, she having borne him nine children: Hugh M., George C., Elizabeth (wife of Henry M. Harris), Jesse H., Adaline, Clara (wife of Louis Renfrew), John N., Erie, and May (wife of James Ridgeway). Mr. and Mrs. Culver are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

William Darby is one of the well-known farmers of Clay County, Neb., and is extensively engaged in the breeding of Poland China hogs. He was born in Canada, July 6, 1848, being a son of David Darby, a native of Yorkshire, England. In 1844 Mr. Darby removed with his family to Canada, and after following the tailor's trade there until 1885, he removed to Clay County, Neb., where he has made his home with his son, William Darby. He buried his wife in March, 1890. William Darby grew up to manhood in Canada, and in 1865 came to the United States, and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Porter County, Ind. He removed from there to Nebraska and settled in Clay County, in the fall of 1878. In 1884 he purchased his present farm, which consists of 160 acres, well improved, with a good residence and a good barn and pigery, and other conveniences, also a fine young orchard just beginning to bear. He

has been actively engaged in the breeding of Poland-China hogs since the spring of 1885. At that time he went to Butler County, Ohio, and purchased his foundation stock, and has each year since that time made purchases from the best herds in Ohio and Indiana. His herd consists of about twenty-five head of registered stock, and about 100 head of young animals all eligible to register, among them are some of the finest animals that can be found. He is prepared to furnish choice stock to his customers at all times and at reasonable prices. He has taken numerous premiums at different fairs, and has done much to improve the fine stock interests of Nebraska, and especially in Clay County. He also owns an interest in a fine imported English Shire stallion, and a Bashaw stallion of considerable notoriety. He has a few fine mares on his farm rearing colts. Mr. Darby is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and the A. O. U. W. In 1874 he was married to Sarah Worsster, of Porter County, Ind. She was born in Ohio and reared in Indiana, she being a member of the Christian Church. His farm is located two and one-half miles north of Edgar, Clay County. Any one wishing to inspect his herd can do so in about twenty minutes' drive from Edgar, on a nice smooth road, and will be cordially welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Darby.

Edward D. Davis, sheriff, Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Davis, the popular sheriff of this county, though born in North Wales on November 16, 1846, has resided here since 1878, and the confidence which the people repose in him is therefore intelligently placed. His parents, David and Elizabeth (Hughes) Davis, were also both natives of Wales. The father and family came to the United States at an early day, locating near Johnstown, Pa., where the father died in 1883 and the mother in 1889, she being one of the victims of the noted Johnstown flood. Edward P. Davis was reared to manhood in Pennsylvania, securing a common-school education, and in 1878 he emigrated to Nebraska. He first located at Glenville, Clay County, where he followed the trade of blacksmith until the fall of 1887, when he was elected sheriff of Clay County, a position he has held by re-election to the pres-

ent time. He is an able and efficient officer, and a man of courage and good judgment. His wife was formerly Miss Elizabeth Rees, a native of Wales, whom he married on May 10, 1871. Mr. Davis is a staunch Republican, and has always adhered closely to that grand old party. In 1863 he enlisted in the 100-day service, and in 1864 in Company H, Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, serving as private until the close of the war. He is a Mason, a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W. and the G. A. R. He is one of the county's most prominent citizens.

William H. Deeder. Within the limits of Clay County, Neb., there is not a man who possesses a more substantial or progressive spirit than Mr. Deeder, and he has had an active career in agricultural pursuits and in stock-raising, and by his progressive ideas has done not a little for the farming interests hereabouts. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1838, and is a son of Isaac and Sophia Deeder, who were also born in that State in 1818 and 1821, respectively. About 1850 the family removed to the State of Illinois, and made their home in Pike County until the death of his father. William H. Deeder grew to manhood and received a good common-school education in Pike County, and in the year 1858 was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Mountain, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Perigo) Mountain, natives of England. Mr. Deeder was so unfortunate as to lose his wife by consumption in 1863, she having borne him one child, Isaac, who has since died. In 1861 Mr. Deeder enlisted in Company H, Second Illinois Light Artillery, United States Army, and served three years and eight months, participating in the following battles and skirmishes: Fort Donelson, the second Fort Donelson, Fort Columbus (Ky.), Clarksville, Nashville (Tenn.) and numerous other skirmishes. He was under Gen. Grant when the river was opened from Cairo to Donelson, thence to Clarksville and from there to Nashville, and removed all the torpedoes from Fort Columbus, being a member of a regiment that held the river. He was mustered out of service in 1865, returning home, to Pittsfield, Pike County, Ill. He was married, August 14, 1864, to Miss Cefronia Osborn,

a daughter of John Osborn, of Nashville, Tenn. They have nine sons and one daughter. In 1886 he and his family moved to Clay County, Neb., where they have since resided on their present farm, which comprises a tract of 160 acres, all tillable and well improved land, which he has made by diligence and perseverance. He is a member of the G. A. R. and the United Brethren Church.

Samuel R. Dillinger, grain dealer, Inland, Neb. Mr. Dillinger, one of the most successful and enterprising business men of Inland, was born in Des Moines County, Iowa, in 1855, and is the elder of two children born to the union of Daniel and Nancy (Davis) Dillinger, the latter a daughter of John A. and Lucy Davis. The father was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., in 1828, and was a carpenter by trade. He was married in Iowa, in 1854, to Miss Davis, and to them were born two children: Samuel R., and Daniel W. (who is now living in Sherman County, Kas., is married and has a family). The father died in Iowa in 1857. He had followed the carpenter trade all his life, but in connection carried on farming for some time. Both he and wife were members of the Universalist Church. After the death of her husband Mrs. Dillinger remained a widow for seven or eight years, and then married Christian Ziegler, and is now living in Des Moines County, Iowa. By her last marriage four children were born: David, Lucy, William and Harriet. The paternal grandfather was named Daniel Dillinger. Samuel K. Dillinger passed his school-boy days in Pennsylvania and Des Moines County, Iowa, and in 1874 started out for himself as a tiller of the soil. He came west in 1877, settled in Clay County, Neb., and was there engaged in cultivating the soil until the winter of 1878, when he returned to Iowa. In the spring of the following year he returned to Clay County and continued his former occupation. In 1878 he bought eighty acres of land, which he began immediately to improve, but this he sold in 1879. He was married in 1880 to Miss Melissa B. Gallentine, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1860, and the daughter of Daniel and Sarah Gallentine. Four children are the result of this marriage: Samuel R., Helen L., Nellie M. and Otis W. From

1883 to 1884 Mr. Dillinger was engaged in merchandising and was very successful in this. In 1885 he again engaged in merchandising, which he continued until 1886 and then sold out. He embarked in the grain business by himself in 1888, but in 1889 consolidated with Mr. Ealer and continued the same under the firm name of Dillinger & Co. They are doing a good business and are wide-awake, live men. Mr. Dillinger is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, Lodge No. 44, Harvard, Clay County, and is a man of energy and good, practical common sense.

Hon. John B. Dinsmore, president of Sutton National Bank, Sutton, Neb. Every life has a history of its own, and although in appearance it may possess little to distinguish it from others, yet the political career and experience of Mr. Dinsmore, as well as his popularity as a citizen, have contributed to give him a wide and popular acquaintance with nearly every citizen of the county. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring in Chautauqua County, on March 15, 1838, and is the son of John B. and Harriet H. (Alden) Dinsmore, natives, respectively, of New Hampshire and New York. The father was born in Windom, August 14, 1792, and died August 15, 1871. He was by occupation a farmer, but early in life he spent four years as a sailor on the high seas. He was a son of John Dinsmore, who was born in New Hampshire, and who there passed the closing scenes of his life. The mother of our subject was born in 1806, and died in July, 1876. She was the third wife of Mr. Dinsmore, and by him became the mother of six children, of whom Hon. John B. Dinsmore was the eldest. The latter was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native county, received the rudiments of an education in the district schools, and later was a student at Grand River Institute, at Austinburg, Ohio. When about twenty-one years of age he spent a short time in Kansas, and about one and a half years in Saline County, Mo., but the Rebellion coming on he returned to New York for the purpose of entering the service, and on September 20, 1861, enlisted in Company I, Ninth New York Cavalry,

and served until October 20, 1864, when, as second lieutenant, he was honorably discharged. The following year he went on his father's farm in York State, and in April, 1866, he engaged in mercantile pursuits, which he continued in that State for about six years. In 1872 he came to Clay County, Neb., and took a homestead in the southern part of the same. Since coming here he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, and is now the owner of 1,000 acres of well-improved land. He has a fine herd of Short-horn cattle, and is engaged quite extensively in raising Poland-China hogs. In politics Mr. Dinsmore is a staunch Republican, and in April, 1873, he was appointed to fill out an unexpired term as county commissioner. In the fall of the same year he was elected sheriff of Clay County, and served in that position one term. In 1875 he was elected to the position of district and county court clerk, and in 1880 was elected to represent Clay County in the Senate of the Nebraska General Assembly. Upon the organization he was elected *pro tem.*, was chairman of the committee on penitentiaries, and introduced what is now known as the mechanic's lien bill. On January 1, 1877, in partnership with L. R. Grimes, Mr. Dinsmore engaged in the banking business under the firm name of Grimes & Dinsmore, and after three years Mr. Dinsmore continued the business under the title of J. B. Dinsmore & Co., until 1887, when the Sutton National Bank was organized. In March, 1883, he, in company with others, organized the Sutton Creamery Association, of which he has been a member for some time, and of which, in 1883, 1884 and 1885, he was president. All these years he has been one of the most active members of that body. He was married on April 12, 1865, to Miss Helen M. Matteson, a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., born in 1844, and the daughter of Victor M. and Marietta (Hoag) Matteson, natives of the Empire State. Mr. Dinsmore is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Evening Star Lodge No. 49, and is a member of the Mount Nebo Commandery at Hastings. He is also president of the bank of Stockham, Hamilton County, Neb., and a member of the G. A. R. and Loyal Legion of the United States. He

is one of the leading men of Nebraska, and a prominent member of the Congregational Church.

H. H. Disbrow, harness-dealer, Harvard, Neb. Mau owes so much, both in the way of business and pleasure, to that noble animal, the horse, that any industry which has for its object the supplying of the horse with harness, saddles or trappings for his better utilization, should surely be regarded in the light of a public benefactor. At least, in a comprehensive work of this kind, recognition must be paid to this important enterprise. Among those prominently engaged in this branch of industry in Harvard is Mr. Disbrow, who established his business here in 1874. He was born in New Brunswick, N. J., December 4, 1853, and is the son of E. S. and Harriet E. (White) Disbrow, the father being a native of New Jersey. The mother died in Wisconsin in 1864. H. H. Disbrow was the fifth of nine children by his father's first marriage, and early in life was taken to Wisconsin, where he was educated in the schools of Fond du Lac. When sixteen years of age, at the above-mentioned city, he began learning the harness-maker's trade, and came to Harvard in 1873. The following year he began the harness-maker's business in that town, and there he has since continued. He always does a good business and now employs three harness-makers, carries a complete stock of harness and saddles, etc., and is one of the most successful business men of the place. His marriage occurred in 1884 to Miss Lottie Pearsall, and they now have three children: Glen, Claude and an infant as yet unnamed. In politics he adheres to the Republican party. He is one of the pioneer settlers of Clay County, and for ten years has been engaged in the live stock business. He is also one of the owners of the opera house, in which he has one-half interest. He has made his own way in life, and is one of the substantial men of Harvard.

Hon. James Donnelly is the present mayor of the city of Harvard, Neb., and he is also a prominent hardware dealer of that place, and although he has only resided in the place for about six years he has identified himself with every interest and is recognized as a valuable and trustworthy citizen

and man of business. His birth occurred in Ireland August 12, 1844. In the year 1850 he removed with his parents to Wethersfield, Ill., and on the 7th of August, 1862, James Donnelly enlisted in the Union army, in Company A, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until May 16, 1863, at which time he was wounded in the battle of Champion's Hill, Miss., from a gun shot striking the lower part of his left leg, which necessitated its amputation. On the field he was taken prisoner a few days later, but was paroled about July 1, and returned up the river to Memphis, where he remained in the hospital for about two weeks. He was then transferred to the hospital at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where he was honorably discharged August 7, 1863, just one year after the day he enlisted. Prior to the battle of Champion's Hill he had participated in the battles of Port Gibson, Raymond, and Jackson, Miss., in all of which he proved himself a brave and intrepid soldier, and loyal in thought, word and deed to his country. Rendered unfit for further duty he, on receiving his discharge, returned to his home in Wethersfield, Ill., where he remained until 1868. In the spring of 1864 he entered Bryant & Stratton's Business College of Chicago, Ill., completing a full commercial course in the fall of 1864 as well as a full course in telegraphy. Upon returning home he engaged in the dry goods and grocery business in connection with Charles Lester, and was thus engaged until 1868, also discharging the duties of postmaster from 1865 up to that time. He was also collector of his township from 1864 to 1867, and in February, 1868, removed to Afton, Iowa, and for one year was employed as a book-keeper in a store. At the end of that time he formed a partnership with one of the proprietors, U. V. Matthews, and the firm of Matthews & Donnelly founded a hardware store in Plattsmouth, Neb., in February, 1869. In the fall of 1871 the firm was dissolved, and shortly after Mr. Donnelly established a like establishment at Crete and was a well known business man of that place until 1881. In May of that year he removed to Denver, Colo., where for a little more than two years he

was engaged in the real estate business. In the fall of 1883 he returned to Nebraska, and in November located in Harvard, where he has ever since been established in business and is a prominent and honored citizen. He was married in Wethersfield, Ill., in September, 1870, to Miss Delia S. Gage, a native of Norfolk, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., born February 22, 1846, their union being blessed in the birth of five children: May J., Bertha G. (deceased), Frederick and two others that died in infancy. The mother of these children passed from life February 29, 1880, in Crete, Neb., and November 5, 1889, Mr. Donnelly was married to Charlotte Renton, a native of Staten Island, N. Y., a daughter of Charles and Mary Renton, who were born, reared and married in England. Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly are members of the Congregational Church, and he is a member of the G. A. R. and the A. O. U. W. He has been commander of his post two years, and is at present master workman in the latter order. He has always been a staunch Republican in his political views, and for two years was mayor of Crete, Neb., and served as a member of the school board of that city eight years. He was secretary and trustee of Doane College at Crete for three years, and filled all these positions in a highly satisfactory manner. In the spring of 1886 he was elected a member of the city council in Harvard, and held this position for two years. In April, 1889, he was elected to the position of mayor, and he is now discharging the duties of that office to the satisfaction of all concerned. He is a shrewd and successful man of business, and is a man of undoubted honesty and integrity, well and favorably known throughout Clay County.

Byron H. Dunn, treasurer, Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Dunn, the present efficient incumbent of the office of county treasurer, owes his nativity to Carroll County, Ill., where his birth occurred September 18, 1849, and his parents, Samuel S. and Martha B. (Holman) Dunn, are both natives of York State. Byron H. Dunn was reared and educated in his native county, following the occupation of a farmer and stock-raiser until the fall of 1880, when he emigrated to Nebraska. He located on a farm on

the main line of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, midway between Sutton and Harvard, in Clay County, and became the owner of 560 acres of as good land as there is to be found in the county. Mr. Dunn is, and always has been, a staunch Republican in his political views, and has taken quite an active interest in the political affairs of the county, having been elected school and township treasurer of Lewis Township. In November, 1889, he was elected by his party to the office of county treasurer, which position he now fills to the satisfaction of all. It is but saying the truth when the statement is made that no more capable man for the position could be found than Mr. Dunn. He is popular with all, kind and courteous in his intercourse with his fellow-men (a secret, no doubt, of his great popularity), and always willing to aid any enterprise which tends to the interest of his adopted county. He was married March 24, 1870, to Miss Mary A. Trail, a native of Maryland, and to them have been born four living children: Sherman H., Howard L., Reuben B. and Clarence B. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is a man universally respected.

William Ealer, grain dealer, Inland, Neb. This prominent business man, a member of the firm of Dillinger & Co., was born in Northampton County, Pa., in 1841, and is the son of Robert Ealer and the grandson of Abraham and Mary (Trail) Ealer. His grandparents both came from England, being among the first settlers of the country, and located at Easton, Northampton County, Pa., about the year 1750. Robert Ealer was born in Northampton County, Pa., in 1808, and was a carpenter by trade. He also farmed some in his younger days and was married in about 1836 to Miss Rebecca Frey, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1818, and the daughter of Jacob Frey, also of the Keystone State. To Mr. and Mrs. Ealer were born seven children: Jane, Edwin, William, Henry, John P., Matilda C. and Ellen. The father of these children is still living in Pennsylvania, but the mother died in that State in 1861, in the same county in which her birth occurred. She was a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her husband at the present time

belongs. William Ealer's early life was divided between assisting on the farm and in attending the common schools. At the age of eighteen years he learned the carpenter's trade, and at the breaking out of the war enlisted in Company D, Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and under Col. L. B. Peirce, and later Col. Reeno, participated in some of the hard-fought battles: Culpepper, Chancellorsville, Second Bull Run (where he was taken prisoner and paroled on the field); was in the battle of Antietam and Sheridan's campaign and in numerous skirmishes, and also with Col. Mosby's men in the Shenandoah Valley, Va. He was struck with balls several times, but was not seriously injured. He ranked as first sergeant, and was discharged in July, 1865, after being in service over four years. He then returned home and worked at his trade. In February, 1865, he was united in marriage to Miss Agnes E. Michler, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1842, and the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Keller) Michler, also natives of Pennsylvania. After working for twelve years in Pennsylvania Mr. Ealer and his family emigrated to the West and settled in Clay County, Inland Township, in 1878. He purchased 160 acres of land two miles south of Inland, began improving the same, and aside from this is the owner of a half interest in a grain elevator at Inland. He is one of the practical and reliable citizens of the county. To his marriage were born four children: Harry H. (living at home), Frank W. (married to Ida Barrett, of Clay County), Anna M. (married to J. J. Watts, in Clay County, and died in Sherman County, Kas., leaving a child, Grace A., who makes her home with our subject), and Thomas E. (who died in Pennsylvania when an infant.) Mr. Ealer is a Republican in politics and he and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. The firm of Dillinger & Co. was established in 1889, on the Chicago & North Western Railroad, Fremont branch. The firm holds grain, lumber and coal, and are doing a good business.

Anderson Eller, now engaged in farming and stock-raising in Edgar Township, Clay County, Neb., was born in the State of North Carolina in Wilkes County, April 30, 1840, being a son of

Harvey Eller, whose wife was formerly Mary C. Vannoy. They were also born in that State and county. In 1854 they left their native State and removed to Iowa, settling in Jefferson County, but are now residing on a farm in Wapello County. Anderson Eller grew to manhood in Iowa, and made his home with his father, assisting him on the farm until he attained his twentieth year, then began doing for himself, and worked as a farm hand for two years. In the spring of 1873 he determined to seek a home in the fertile prairies of Nebraska, and took up a homestead claim in Marshall Precinct, of Clay County, being one of the first settlers in that part of the county. He experienced many hardships the first two years of his settlement here, and in the month of April, 1873, witnessed all the horrors of a blizzard, and the second year was affected with the grasshoppers. He pre-empted his present property in 1875, and now has eighty acres in a good state of cultivation and improved with good buildings of all kinds, and a young bearing orchard of 150 trees. He was married in this county on December 24, 1875, to Miss Cora B. Mizener, a daughter of I. M. Mizener, of this county. She was born in Macoupin County, Ill., and in 1872 came with her brother-in-law, J. H. Hazlett, to Nebraska, and married at the early age of sixteen years. They have two children: Harvey N. and Tindall Ord. The family worship in the Christian Church, in which Mr. Eller is a deacon.

Jesse F. Eller, cashier of First National Bank, Harvard, Neb., and an old resident of Clay County, was born in Ashe County, N. C., on February 12, 1852, and is the son of Harvey and Mary C. (Vannoy) Eller, natives of North Carolina. Harvey Eller was born in 1819, and was married in 1838 to Miss Mary C. Vannoy, whose birth occurred in 1821. The fruits of this union were fifteen children, ten of whom were sons, and thirteen are now living, the youngest being nineteen years of age. The parents are both living, their home being in Iowa. Our subject's paternal grandparents were Simeon and Fanny (McNeil) Eller. Jesse F. Eller accompanied his parents to Wapello County, Iowa, when but eight months old, was reared on a

farm, and when twenty-one years of age entered the university at Pella, Iowa, where he attended six months. In the meantime, in 1873, he came to Clay County, Neb., and took an eighty-acre homestead in Marshall Township. During the great storm of April, 1873, he was snowed in his sod house, and had nothing to eat from noon Sunday until noon Tuesday. On leaving college he returned to his homestead, and for several years worked on that during the summer months, and taught school during the winter. In 1883 he removed from his homestead to Clay Center, where he engaged in the real estate and loan business. Upon the organization of the First National Bank in Harvard, in 1889, he was elected its cashier, and he now holds that position. His residence, since that date, has been in Harvard. He selected for his companion in life Miss Lavina Troxel, a native of Wapello, Iowa, and the daughter of Daniel and Susannah (McCall) Troxel, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Eller were married on December 4, 1877, and to them have been born three children: Mary M., Anna V. and Charles J. Mary M. died in early childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Eller are members of the Christian Church, and the former is a Mason and a Republican. Mr. Eller is what is termed a self-made man, and although he started with no capital, he is now one of the substantial and esteemed citizens of Harvard.

James C. Elwood, farmer and stock-raiser, Sutton, Neb. Mr. Elwood is one of the pioneers of Clay County. He has been located here since 1873, and has not only become well known and respected, but is one of the most successful farmers, as a glance over his fine estate will show. His finely improved farm of 240 acres is adorned with a very commodious and comfortable residence, and the outbuildings are all of the best. Mr. Elwood was born in Chenango County, N. Y., March 18, 1827, and was the ninth of eleven children born to Nathaniel B. and Atlanta (Curtis) Elwood, natives also of the Empire State. The father was a successful agriculturist and followed this occupation all his life. James C. Elwood secured a fair education in the common schools, and at the age of

nineteen began to fight life's battles for himself on a farm in Steuben County, where he remained for twenty-one years. He then moved to Rockton, Ill., in 1868, and continued tilling the soil until 1873, when he moved to Nebraska, settling in this place. He first homesteaded eighty acres on his present farm, and to this he has since added 160 acres. In 1848 he married Miss Sallie A. Styles, a native of New York, born May 5, 1833, and the daughter of J. T. Styles, on whose farm Mr. Elwood remained so long after leaving home. Five children were the fruits of this union: Nathaniel B. (married to Miss Bettie Elder), Simeon S. (married to Miss Ida M. Hurlburt), Wesley V. (married Miss Emma A. Herrington), Eleanor (wife of Leonard J. M. Nehf) and James S. Mr. Elwood affiliates with the Republican party in his political views, and Mrs. Elwood is a member of the Grove Free Baptist Church. He is one of the best and most enterprising farmers of the county, and as such merits the respect which he receives.

John L. Epperson, county attorney, Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Epperson is a good example of what can be accomplished in life when a thorough determination to succeed in any calling is coupled with energy, perseverance and close application in the direction chosen. He was originally from LaFayette, Ind., where his birth occurred November 6, 1834, and is the son of James H. and Martha J. (Os born) Epperson, natives, respectively, of Lexington and Maysville, Ky. The father and family immigrated west to Iowa City, Iowa, in 1840, and there resided until after the mother's death in 1846. He then removed to near Plattsville, Wis., where John L. worked in the lead mines for three years. At the age of eighteen years the latter removed to McDonough County, Ill., with his father, settled on a farm and there read law. Upon the breaking out of the late war he enlisted in 1862 in Company L, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, and served three years as a private. For a long time he followed the stars and stripes in their many conflicts and struggles on to victory, and at last returned to his home with the full satisfaction of having served his country well. Returning to Illinois he practiced law, and was also in the employ of the Chicago, Burling-

ton & Quincy Railroad until 1879, when he came to Clay County, Neb., and settled on a farm west of Fairfield. Four years later he removed to Fairfield, entered the practice of law, and in the fall of 1888 was elected county attorney. He then removed to Clay Center. On December 11, 1856, Miss Sarah C. Rine, a native of Franklin County, Pa., became his wife, and to this union were born three living children: Martha J. (wife of George W. Gaumer), Charles H. (attorney at Fairfield) and Ambrose C. Mr. Epperson is a Republican and a warm advocate of the principles of his party to day. He is a Mason, a member of the G. A. R., a man universally esteemed and respected, and a legal practitioner of experience and ability.

A. P. Erickson, farmer and stock-raiser on Section 18, Town 8, Range 6, Eldorado Township, Clay County, is a native of Sweden, born near Linsispine, March 18, 1861. His father, John Erickson, spent his school days in Sweden and learned the shoemaker's trade. At the age of twenty-five years he married Miss Cora Connot, and by this union has had three children: Swan (living in Clay County, Neb.), Williamette (deceased) and A. P. (the subject of this sketch). The father died when our subject was about five years of age, a member of the Lutheran Church, and when he had reached his ninth year his mother emigrated with him to America, settling in Warren County, Ill. Here he received a limited education and worked by the month on a farm until he was seventeen years of age, when he came to Clay County, Neb., and bought and settled on the farm he now owns, consisting of 120 acres of land, all well improved, with a nice dwelling, barn, out buildings, fences, etc. As a fruit-raiser, he has been very successful, having an abundance of fruit of all kinds. He raises good cattle, mostly of the Short-horn breed, as well as good horses. In November, 1884, he was married to Miss Mary, daughter of A. P. and Christina E. (Grin) Munson, and the fruits of this union have been two children: Frank H. and Augustus F. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and of the Baptist Church. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active interest

in the politics of his county. He has been very successful in Nebraska, and is well pleased with the State, and has made what property he owns by his own exertions and good management.

Daniel W. Evans, farmer and stock-raiser, Spring Ranch, Neb. Among the successful agriculturists of Clay County, Neb., whose merits are such as to entitle him to representation in the present work, is Mr. Daniel Evans, the subject of this sketch. He was born in Highland County, Ohio, in 1841, and is the fourth in a family of children born to Charles and Susan P. (Eastman) Evans, natives of Ohio and Massachusetts, respectively. The father was born in 1809 and spent his entire life in Highland County, Ohio, where he carried on farming and was a very extensive hog and cattle buyer, driving his hogs to Cincinnati long before railroads were known. In politics he was first a "Know Nothing," then a Whig and lastly a Republican. He was an energetic and prominent leader in political affairs, both local and at large, and was a representative citizen. He was reared an Old-School Presbyterian and took a great deal of interest in the upbuilding of churches and schools and the welfare of the country generally. In 1830, he married Miss Susan P. Eastman, and to them the following children were born: Eliza J. (deceased in infancy), Effie A. Arthur (of Champaign, Ill.), William H. (residing at Greenfield, Ohio), Daniel W., James E. (died at Greenfield, Ohio, at the age of forty-one years), Mary M. Arthur (of Council Bluffs, Iowa), Leander (who died in infancy), Hugh A. (a farmer near Champaign, Ill.), and John F. (a farmer in Indian Territory). The mother of these children died at Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1851, of Asiatic cholera, and the father was married the second time, in 1855, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Selph, who bore him five children: Mrs. Alice Nevin (of Colorado), Horace S., Lena M. (married at Hillsboro, Ohio, on the old homestead), David M. (at Hillsboro) and Bertha (at home with her mother). The father died in 1871. Daniel W. Evans received a common-school education in his native State and in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, First Ohio Cavalry, for three years, or during the war. He participated

in the battle of Shiloh, Perryville, Corinth, Stone River, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Chickamauga, Murfreesboro, and all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, and numerous other engagements of more or less note. Between battles he was on cavalry raids, chasing Morgan. He went as far as Jonesboro during the Atlanta campaign, and was discharged at Columbia, Tenn., on October 6, 1864. During service he was in twenty-six or twenty-seven hard-fought battles and was a brave and fearless soldier. Returning to Ohio at the close of the war he followed farming for two years, and in March, 1866, was united in marriage to Miss Delia S. Flesher, the daughter of Elias and Susan (Seudder) Flesher, the father a machinist of Warren County, Ohio. Our subject moved to Southern Illinois in 1867, thence to Adams County, Iowa, in 1869, and from there to Clay County, Neb., in 1870, and settled on his present place of residence. During all this time he has followed farming and has made a success of the same. He did not bring his family to Nebraska until the fall of 1871 on account of the Indians who were hostile at that time. He homesteaded 160 acres of land and has since added to this eighty acres, making a fine farm of 240 acres. It is said that the first white child born in Clay County after the settlement was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Griffith, on February 14, 1871. She is married now. Mr. Evans removed to Kansas in 1877, engaged in farming, and after remaining there three years returned to his homestead in Clay County. To his marriage have been born three children: Jessie M. (a teacher of Clay County), Charles F. (at home), and Harry G. (at home). Mr. Evans is a Republican in politics and represents his precinct often in both county and Congressional conventions. He is serving his second term as supervisor from Spring Ranch Township, is also treasurer of his school district, and is steward and recording secretary in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he and his wife are both members. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., and G. A. R., I. O. G. T. and Farmers' Alliance.

Josiah Everett, supervisor of Sheridan Town-

ship, also farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. A life-time of hard, earnest endeavor in pursuing the occupation to which he now gives his attention, coupled with strict integrity, honesty of purpose and wise liberality, has placed Mr. Everett among the truly respected and esteemed men of the county. He owes his nativity to Mercer County, Pa., where he was born on January 5, 1842, and is the seventh in a family of eight children, the result of the union of Peter and Elizabeth (Marsters) Everett, natives of Pennsylvania. Josiah Everett's only education was that of the ordinary farmer's son of that day, working on the farm in the summer and in the winter attending the district school. In the spring of 1863 he assisted in driving a herd of horses from Winnebago County, Ill., to Sacramento, Cal., and while West was engaged in mining and assisting in the construction of quartz mills, a court house, etc., in Washoe City, Washoe Valley, Nev. He experienced the usual hardships and came very near losing his life from a band of Goshoot Indians, then on the war path, who tried to stampede the horses. He then left Sacramento on a steamer to San Francisco, and from there went to New York by way of Panama. From there he went to his home in Illinois. Prior to this, in 1861, he enlisted in the Union army, upon the first call for troops, and served four months in Company C, Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry under Capt. Hiram R. Enoch in the Western division. After returning to Illinois from his California trip he went to farming, but in August, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. Being on detached service he did not participate in any of the principal battles, but was in several severe skirmishes and was wounded twice, once by a bushwhacker under the left shoulder blade, and another time by the falling of a horse. He served as a non-commissioned officer, but was afterward promoted to the rank of captain, and given charge of a colored company (F), First Kentucky Volunteers. After the war he returned to Illinois, remaining there until 1871, and then went to Grundy County, Iowa, where he made his home for eleven years. He then sold his farm and

moved to Nebraska, where he purchased his present property. He was married in 1866 to Miss Adelia Locke, a native of Connecticut, born in 1845 and the daughter of William and P. Locke, natives also of Connecticut. To Mr. and Mrs. Everett have been born two children: Elias E. and Oscar J. Mr. Everett is a member of the G. A. R. at Edgar, and is a Republican in politics. He has been school director, road supervisor, and in 1889 he was elected township supervisor, and March 25, 1890, he was elected president of a Farmers' Alliance of his township. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church, of which he is clerk. He is a successful agriculturist and is the owner of 160 acres of excellent land.

James M. Farley is a well known and highly successful stock-raiser of Lone Tree Township, Clay County, Neb., and nowhere in the entire community in which he resides is there to be found a man of more energy, force of character and determination than he. He was born in that State of progressive and intelligent farmers—New York, his birth occurring in Cattaraugus County, February 3, 1844, he being a son of John and Caroline (Bush) Farley, natives, respectively, of Ireland and Holland. James M. removed to La Porte County, Ind., with his parents when a small child, and at the age of eight years was taken to Will County, Ill., and two years later to Winneshiek County, Iowa, where he was reared to manhood on a farm. In 1859 he engaged in steamboating on the upper Mississippi, but at the opening of the war laid aside all personal considerations and enlisted in Company F, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving his country as a private and non-commissioned officer until the close of the war, after which he returned to his home in Iowa, where he remained until 1867. He then located in Kansas City, where he was engaged in contracting for city improvements for one year, after which he removed to Fayette County, Iowa, and engaged in the lime and stone business until 1874, at which time he came to Nebraska. He purchased a quarter-section of land in Lone Tree Township, Clay County, of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and homesteaded another quarter-section, making his home on the former

piece of land, being engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1885, when he purchased and removed to his present property, which consists of acres of excellent farming land. His farm is an exceptionally fine one for stock purposes, the conveniences, etc., being unsurpassed, and he is one of the most extensive dealers in stock cattle in the county. November 17, 1867, he was married to Miss Mary M. Lee, a native of Norway, and by her he has a family of seven children: Effie B. (wife of John W. Arrowsmith, a professor in Morrison College), George W., Eva M., Minta R. Mabel, Nellie M., Jessie L. and James Walter. Mr. Farley has been a Republican ever since he attained his majority, but is now in sympathy with the farmers' movement, opposing monopolies, and is a leading and active member of the Farmers' Alliance. He is a Royal Arch Mason, having passed all the chairs in Fairfield Lodge, and belongs to Edgar Chapter No. 22. He is also a member of the A. O. U. W., and belongs to George Oliver Post of the G. A. R., at Fairfield. In 1882 he was elected commissioner of Clay County to represent the district, and filled the duties of this office in a faithful and efficient manner for two terms of three years each. He has also been elected to the office of justice of the peace, but has never qualified. He is a true representative of that oft much abused phrase "self-made man," for he started in life with no means whatsoever, but by energy and intelligent management has acquired a comfortable competency and commands the respect of all who know him.

John G. Farrell, farmer and stock-raiser, Harvard, Neb. No name is more closely associated with the farming interests of the county than the one that heads this sketch, for it is borne by a man who is progressive in his ideas, and during his residence in this county has been one of its most successful agriculturists. He owes his nativity to County Cork, Ireland, where his birth occurred in 1846, and is the seventh of nine children born to John and Ellen (Cotter) Farrell, and the grandson of Timothy Farrell, who was born in Ireland in 1800. John Farrell, Sr., reared the following children in Ireland: Mary, Nora, Ellen, Timothy, Cor-

nelius, Jeremiah, Dennis, John and James. The father of these children died in Ireland in 1888, but the mother died previous to this, in the old country, in 1884. John G. Farrell passed his early life in Ireland, where he received his education, and at the age of twenty-four years emigrated to the United States, landing in the State of New York, where he remained about three years. From there he went to Mississippi, remained there one year, and in 1873 came to Clay County, Neb., settling on 160 acres of land, having taken up eighty acres and purchasing the rest of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. He was married in 1874 to Miss Patience Brown, daughter of Steven Brown, one of the early settlers of Clay County, who came here in 1871. To Mr. and Mrs. Farrell have been born five children: Mary E. (born in 1876), Patience A. (born in 1877), Timothy (born in 1882), Steven (born in 1887) and Constance K. (born in 1889). Mr. Farrell has a nice farm, pleasantly located, and, being a progressive farmer, has every convenience. He is a Democrat in politics, a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are members of the Catholic Church. He takes a deep interest in churches and schools, and has held the office of school director for some time. In connection with his farming interests he is engaged in raising a good grade of cattle, hogs and horses.

G. Z. Fink is the present justice of the peace of Glenville Township, and, though a successful farmer and stock-raiser for the past six years, he is now retired from the active duties of life. He was born in Baden, Germany, December 18, 1835, and possesses the sterling characteristics of all German-Americans—energy, frugality, honesty and perseverance. He is the eldest of six children born to Jacob and Margaret (Zeh) Fink, who were born in Baden in 1808 and 1814, respectively, and moved to the United States in 1836, settling in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1839 the family moved to Evansville, Ind., where the father was engaged in the lumber business, but afterward moved to St. Louis, Mo., thence to Wheeling, W. Va., moving from there at the end of nine months to his old home in Pennsylvania, living in Reading at the time of his death in June, 1867. G. Z. Fink was fortunate enough

to secure a good common-school education, and, unlike a great many boys, made good use of his opportunities. He then entered the academy of Pittston, from which institution he was graduated, and from the age of seventeen until he was twenty-one years old he worked at the trade of locomotive machinist, on the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, and after a few years time accepted the position of locomotive engineer, which position he ably filled at intervals for fourteen years. On July 4, 1864, while hauling a passenger train, loaded with excursionists, his engine collided with another train, and although considerable damage was done, and he was quite badly scalded on the arm and leg by the steam, fortunately no lives were lost. His life was full of the dangers incident to an engineer, so that in 1865 he gave up this calling, and accepted the position of superintendent of the Blue Creek Oil Company, of Charleston, W. Va., a position he held with success for two years. After retiring from the management of this concern he went to Philadelphia, and embarked in the furniture business, but becoming tired of mercantile life he sold out, and in 1867 became managing foreman of a furniture factory belonging to D. B. Sliffer, a position he retained until the spring of 1871. He then became foreman of a lumber camp in Perry County, and in 1873 he started a carriage and blacksmith factory in Churchtown, Cumberland County, where, by his honest dealing and the excellent quality of his work, he built up an extensive trade and made a new start in life. In 1877 he became interested in the growing West, and selling out his factory he came to Clay County, Neb., and settled in Glenville Township, and purchased a farm of eighty acres of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, which he still owns. Being also a carpenter by trade, he rented his farm and engaged in the business of contracting and building, and has built or assisted in building nearly every house in the town. In 1884 he retired, and for some time engaged in farming, raising and dealing in stock. January 24, 1859, he was married to Miss Alcinda F. Rupp, a daughter of Prof. I. D. and Caroline (De Arested) Rupp, a teacher of languages in Swa-

tara Collegiate Institute, of Jonestown, Pa., the former born in 1803, and the latter in 1808. Mrs. Fink was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, May 14, 1830, and her union with Mr. Fink resulted in the birth of five children: Daniel J., Maggie C. (wife of P. L. Kissenger), and Addie M.; two children died in infancy. Mr. Fink is a Mason and a member of the I. O. O. F., and is a member in good standing in both these organizations. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his wife of the German Reformed, and in 1880 he was elected justice of the peace of his township, and has held the position ever since, being a popular and just official. He is a patron of all worthy enterprises, and is a man whom all respect and esteem.

M. L. Fishburn, residing near Fairfield, Clay County, Neb., was brought up to the life of a farmer by his father, John Fishburn, and like the majority of boys has since followed in his father's footsteps, and is now a successful agriculturist and stockman of this State. He was born in Will County, Ill., in 1856, being the second child of John and Phoebe (Wright) Fishburn, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and was there reared to manhood, learning the shoemaker's trade in his youth, and began life for himself at about the age of twenty-five years. He came to Illinois at an early day and was there first married to Miss Cynthia Cox, by whom he had a family of five children. Of these Mrs. Elizabeth Hardy is a resident of Clay County, Neb., Joseph lives in Oregon, and Mrs. Cynthia Grant is a resident of Will County, Ill. The mother of these children died about 1850, and about 1852 Mr. Fishburn married Miss Wright, a daughter of James Wright. This union resulted in the birth of seven children: Mrs. Mary Kidwell (living in Will County, Ill.), M. L. (the subject of this sketch), James (living in Lincoln County, Neb.), Mrs. Martha Bagley (residing in Fairfield, Neb.), Catherine L. (who died at the age of five years), John (living in Lexington, Dawson County, Neb.) and Daniel (who died at the age of two years). The father was a shoe-maker and farmer by occupation, and having been captain of a company of Pennsylvania State

militia he was engaged in drilling troops during the late war. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and died in 1865, his wife passing from life in Will County, Ill., June 4, 1889, having suffered two years from a dislocated thigh. M. L. Fishburn obtained a fair education in the common schools of Illinois, and when twenty-five years of age began the battle of life for himself. He came to Clay County, Neb., in 1879, and was married here, June 3, 1880, to Miss Mary L. Hall, a daughter of Henry and Esther (Rose) Hall, who were born in London, England, and came to the United States in 1872, settling in Clay County, Neb. To Mr. and Mrs. Fishburn a family of three children have been born: Arthur, Leonard and Ernest. After coming to Clay County, Neb., Mr. Fishburn learned and for five years worked at the carpenter's trade, but for the past six or seven years has been engaged in tilling the soil and has met with well deserved success. He is quite extensively engaged in breeding Poland-China hogs, and at the present time has about twenty-five head of thoroughbred animals, and also keeps a good grade of horses and cattle. He and wife are members of the Congregational Church, and he is a liberal supporter of schools and churches.

Daniel F. Fisher, farmer and stock-raiser, Fairfield, Neb. Mr. Fisher has been unusually active in the affairs of this portion of this county, ever contributing by precept and example to live the life of an honest, upright and industrious agriculturist. He was born in Franeestown, Hillsborough County, N. H., on April 14, 1834, to the union of Moses, Jr., and Panney (Fuller) Fisher. Moses Fisher, Jr., was born in Franeestown, N. H., on October 25, 1790, and was the son of Moses and Louisa (Thorpe) Fisher. The father was born in Dedham, Mass., November 27, 1755, and the mother September 26, 1762. The mother of our subject was born August 17, 1793, and was the daughter of Andrew Fuller, of Lyndborough, N. H. The children of Moses Fisher, Jr., and wife were named as follows: Louisa (wife of Moses H. Bradford), Elizabeth T. (wife of Theron Palmer), Moses B. (married Tersis A. Varnum), Panney Jane (married John M. Sanborn), Harriet

(married John Tevere). Hannah, Frances and Mary Ann died while very young. Mary Frances died at the age of eighteen years. George Edward was united in marriage to Mary K. Pettingill. Daniel F. Fisher received only a good district-school education, and when nineteen years of age apprenticed himself in Gage, Warner & Whitney's machine shop, Nashua, N. H., where he remained until he had served his time, which was three years. From there he went to Salem, Mass., where he followed his trade for some six months, returning to Nashua, where he was in the railroad shop for a while. From there he went to Milford, N. H., and wishing another change he went to Manchester, N. H., and found employment in the Amoskegg locomotive shops. In September, 1857, he emigrated to Denmark, Lee County, Iowa, where he found employment on the farm with a half brother of his father's, Asa Fisher, with whom he remained one year. He then bought a small farm and erected a house, and set out an orchard and small fruit and started in the small fruit business, besides making many other improvements on the place. In 1859 he returned to Nashua, N. H., where he resumed his trade. He finally drifted again to Manchester. February 29, 1860, his father died and he was detained settling up the estate. In February, 1861, he was married to Miss Mary A. Bullen, daughter of William and Hannah (White) Bullen. The father was born in 1801, and died in 1865, and the mother was born in 1800, and died at the age of seventy-five years. Mrs. Fisher was born in Hallowell, Maine, on February 12, 1837, and is the third in the family of five children, viz.: Sarah E. (wife of John R. Smith), Hannah Frances (wife of Larking Trask), Julia Octavia (wife of Henry Carlton), and Joseph W., (who was a prisoner at Andersonville prison during the late war, and was supposed to have starved to death). Daniel F. Fisher enlisted in the engineer regiment of the West, afterward known as the First Missouri Engineers, also as Bissell's engineers, September 15, 1861, and participated in the siege of New Madrid about March 8, 1862, and Island No. 10, April 8; siege of Corinth, which was

evacuated May 30 of same year; battle of Corinth, October 4, 1862; siege of Vicksburg, Miss., in 1863, and Atlanta in 1864. A great deal of his time was spent in building fortifications and keeping the way open for transportation. After the surrender of Atlanta, his three years having expired, Mr. Fisher was discharged on November 2, 1864, and returned to Denmark, Lee County, Iowa, where he was engaged in the nursery business until the fall of 1872. He then sold out, made a lengthy visit among old home places in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine, and in 1873 came to Nebraska. He is a Republican in politics, has held a number of town offices, and is now township clerk, holding his second term. He is a member of the George C. Oliver Post No. 43, G. A. R., Fairfield, also of Fairfield Lodge No. 84, A. F. & A. M., and he and wife are members of the Congregational Church. He has always been a leading spirit in benevolent acts, caring for the sick and needy, and supporting enterprises of public benefit. To his marriage were born two children: Walter H. and Jennie L., both single.

Fedde Fixsen, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. The reader is herewith handed a plain record of a useful man; for certainly, if what is the most use is of the most value, then indeed it is in recording the lives of representative men that biography is to be useful to posterity. Fedde Fixsen is a native of Germany, born in 1826, and is the fourth in a family of nine children, the result of the union of Fedde and Margaret Fixsen, natives also of Germany, where they passed their entire lives, the father dying in 1840 and the mother in 1847. Their children were named as follows: Betti, John F., Fredricke, Margaret, Fedde, Catherine, Augusta, Sophia and Mary. Fedde Fixsen, Jr., attended the schools of his native country and served six years in the German army. In 1853 he came to the United States, settled in Pennsylvania, Fulton County, and there carried on farming. He was married in that State, in 1855, to Mrs. Mary H. (Blair) Kerr, widow of a Mr. Kerr, and the fruits of this union were six children: Anna (now Mrs. Friday, of Minnesota), Minnie (now Mrs. Dillinger, of Kansas), Holmes (in Kansas), Nettie

(at home), Erwin (married, and resides in Kansas) and Otto (who was one of the first to remove to Nebraska, and died in that State in 1872). Mr. Fixsen continued to till the soil in Pennsylvania until the spring of 1872, when he emigrated to Nebraska and settled where he now resides. He took 160 acres of land, also has 160 acres of railroad land, and forty acres are laid off in town lots. The town of Inland is on his place. He has been very successful since coming to Nebraska and has accumulated all his property by his own exertions. He was one of the pioneers of Clay County, and his house for years was a stopping place for all the emigrants going west. He and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church, and in his political preference he affiliates with the Republican party. He is an honest, upright citizen, and has ever been willing to assist in all laudable enterprises for the good of the county. He has helped to improve 280 acres of land and on this he has a nice orchard, a good grove and is nicely fixed in every respect. He is quite deeply interested in raising stock, especially Hereford cattle and Poland-China hogs. In March, 1865, Mr. Fixsen enlisted for three years, or during the war, in the One Hundred and Third Pennsylvania Infantry, and was discharged in July of that year.

Dr. John T. Fleming, dentist, Harvard, Neb. Art as well as science has in recent years made rapid strides,*but in no direction has it been more marked in its course and more beneficial in its results than in the profession of dentistry. Among those prominently engaged in this profession in Harvard is Dr. John T. Fleming, who was born in England, March 30, 1841, and who is the son of John and Mary (Shergold) Fleming, and the grandson of Thomas and Elizabeth (Goulden) Fleming. The maternal grandparents of the Doctor were Richard and Sarah (Douty) Shergold, the former of whom lived to be ninety-nine years and eleven months of age. Dr. John T. Fleming passed his youth and early manhood in his native country, and early in life studied medicine, surgery and dentistry, making himself thoroughly familiar with those subjects, and graduating from the Royal College of Surgeons, the Royal College of Physicians and

the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, all located in London. For five years prior to emigrating to America he practiced medicine and dental surgery, and was also a partner in a drug store at Downton. He was married November 7, 1864, to Eliza Mary Down, daughter of Aaron Down, who for twenty-seven years was in the service of the British army, and who for his long and faithful service and for his meritorious conduct in the battle of Waterloo was awarded two medals. The mother of Mrs. Fleming, before her marriage, was Miss Martha Crabbe. In 1872 Dr. Fleming and wife emigrated to America and on reaching this country came directly to Nebraska. They located in Linn Township, Clay County, on an eighty-acre homestead, and there resided seven years. They then located in Harvard, where the Doctor has since devoted his attention to the practice of dentistry. He is thoroughly skilled in his profession and besides his professional training he possesses a fine classical and literary education. He and wife are members of the Episcopal Church. In politics Dr. Fleming is a Republican and has served two years and eight months as supervisor of Clay County, also one term as city clerk of Harvard. He is a man of superior intelligence and as a citizen is esteemed and respected by all who know him.

John Flick, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Mr. Flick was originally from Dane County, Wis., where his birth occurred in 1853 and his parents, Joseph and Savenah (Zink) Flick, were natives of Northampton County, Pa., the former born in 1818 and the latter in 1820. The parents were married in 1838 and the father followed farming in the State of Wisconsin for many years. They were the parents of eight children, all now living: Calvin (married and resides in Clarke, Wis., was in the Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry during the war), Charlotte (now Mrs. Peterson, residing in Inland township, Clay County, Neb.), Helen (now Mrs. Poole, living in Hastings, Neb.), Sarah (now Mrs. Merrell, living in Easton, Northampton County, Pa.), Frances (now Mrs. Jones, residing in Thomas County, Kas.), John (at Inland), Charles (living in Omaha) and Denna

(now Mrs. Janes, residing in Phelps County). Mr. Flick is the grandfather of thirty-two children, all living, and seven great grandchildren, who are also living. Mr. Flick immigrated to Wisconsin at an early day (1844) settling near Madison, but later moved to Nebraska and settled in Clay County in 1871. He followed farming for some time but at last retired and now resides in Hastings. He has been a successful business man and one who has the confidence and respect of all acquainted with him. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church and he is a Democrat in politics. John Flick, the grandfather of our subject, founded a village in Northampton County, Pa., and named it Flickville. John Flick (our subject) received his education in Wisconsin and came west to Clay County, Neb., with his parents. In 1873 he started out for himself, bought 120 acres of land, began improving the same, and now has a very fine place. He was married in 1879 to Miss Alice Sluyter, a native of Genesee County, Mich., born in 1860, and the daughter of J. Sluyter, of Harvard, Clay County. To Mr. and Mrs. Flick were born five children: Sarah, Lena, Myrtle, Reuben J. and Howard. Mr. Flick was elected justice of the peace in 1882 and assessor in 1888 and 1889. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and in his political views is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Flick are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Flick has been a member of the school board for six years and is deeply interested in educational matters. He takes some interest in stock-raising and has Hereford cattle, Poland-China hogs and Clydesdale horses. He likes Nebraska and thinks of making it his permanent home.

A. J. Frantz, farmer and stock-raiser, Fairfield, Neb. Nowhere within the limits of Clay County can there be found a man who takes greater interest in its agricultural and stock affairs than A. J. Frantz, or who strives continually to promote and advance these interests to a higher plane. He was born in Allegany County, Md., in 1847, and is the eldest son born to Joseph and Charlotte (Fike) Frantz, the father a native of Bedford County, Md., born in 1815. The latter began life for him-

self as a farmer at the age of twenty eight years, and was married to Miss Fike in 1846. This union resulted in the birth of four children: A. J., B. F. (of Paw Paw, Lee County, Ill.), Linda and Jennie. The father removed to Pennsylvania in about 1856, and followed his chosen occupation in Somerset County. He removed to Illinois in 1866 and established a large hotel at Princeton, Bureau County, but lost this by fire. He then removed to East Paw Paw, De Kalb County, purchased a farm and tilled the soil, but at the present time he is engaged in the farm implement business in West Paw Paw, Ill. He is an active Republican in politics and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F. Lodge. A. J. Frantz passed his youthful days in Pennsylvania, and in 1864 entered the United States army in Company I, Third Maryland Infantry, participating in a number of the principal engagements and numberless skirmishes. He was taken prisoner August 11, 1864, at Berryville, Va., by Mosby's guerrillas while guarding a wagon train through from Harper's Ferry to Winchester, and taken to Belle Isle, whence after one month he was taken to Salisbury, N. C., and there remained six months. He was paroled the last of February, 1865, and discharged from service at Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md., by General Order No. 77, June 28, 1865. Returning to Pennsylvania after the war, he remained there until 1866, when he went to Illinois with his father's family. He was married at Leavenworth City, Kas., in 1870, to Miss Lucy Thompson, this union resulting in the birth of a daughter, December 4, 1871, who died February 10, 1880. In 1880 Mr. Frantz came to Nebraska, and to Clay County in 1885, purchasing 240 acres of land, which he has improved very much, and is now one of the foremost farmers of the county. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party, and has been a delegate to the conventions a number of times. He is an active member of the school board, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R., and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

William H. Frazell is engaged in farming and stock-raising on 160 acres of land in Section 10, Harvard Township, Clay County, Neb., but is also the owner of forty acres more on Section 15. He was born near Oquawka, Henderson County, Ill., in 1848, and was the youngest of three children born to Jason and Margaret (Alder) Frazell, the former a native of Vermont, a son of Earl Frazell, and a cooper by trade. He removed to Ohio with his parents when a small boy, there received his schooling, and was married shortly after this event, removing to the State of Illinois, and settling in Henderson County, where his three children were born: Leonard E. (born in 1844), Esther A. (born in 1846) and William H. (born in the above-mentioned year). The mother of these children was a daughter of Jonathan Alder, of Ohio, and was born in 1814 in that State, her death taking place in Illinois, in 1866. Jason Frazell had previously married Catherine Barler, but she died a year or so later, leaving one child: Desire (now Mrs. Blackburn, residing in Marshtown, Minn.). Mr. Frazell's third and last marriage took place in 1886, and since that time he has lived a retired life in Gosper County, Neb. William H. Frazell spent his school-days in Illinois, and in 1866 started out in life for himself as a farmer, being married the same year, and in that State made his home until 1871, when he came to Nebraska and settled in Clay County, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land. He has since added forty acres to his original purchase, this property being purchased of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and he is now considered one of the prosperous and wide awake farmers of this region. He is quite extensively engaged in stock-raising, his horses being of an exceptionally good grade, and his property has been earned by hard and persistent endeavor. He learned the carpenter's trade in his early manhood, and in connection with his farming operations he carries on this business also, and has constructed some of the best buildings in the county, among which are many of his own buildings. He is a Democrat in his political views, has served as a member of his district school board, and socially is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

He and his wife (whose maiden name was Mary S. Speck) are members of the United Brethren Church. She is a daughter of Frank Speck, of Illinois, and was born in 1848. They have a family of eight children: Alma E. (born in 1868, is the wife of Charles Hasloah, of Eldorado Township), Louis F., Olive A., Emma E., Henry W., Ira L., Ella O. and Jennie E.

John W. French is one of the most successful and extensive farmers and stock-raisers of Clay County, Neb. He owes his nativity to Essex County, England, his birth occurring at Chelmsford in 1838, and is the son of William and Mary (Haverty) French, both natives of England, the father born about 1814 and the mother about 1816. The grandfather, Thomas French, was of English descent. On the mother's side our subject is of Irish descent, her ancestors coming from County Galway, Ireland. His grandmother (Haverty) came to America in 1854, bringing Mr. French with her, and he has never returned to his native country nor has he ever seen his family since. He and his grandmother landed in New York, went from there to Newark, N. J., and finally located in Jersey City of that State, where he remained until 1855. From there he went to Illinois, locating in Peoria County, where he remained until 1861, and then, on April 19 of that year, enlisted in Company A, Second Regiment Illinois Light Artillery, and served until September 14, 1864. The company was ordered to Alton, Ill., on July 6, 1861, from there to St. Charles, Mo., and there the battery was separated into detachments and sent to various places, meeting again at Jefferson Barracks, where the company was properly mustered into the Union service. They were ordered to Jefferson City by Fremont, thence to Boonville, Mo., Georgetown, etc. In the fall of 1861 it formed a part of Fremont's expedition to Springfield, but returned to Otterville and remained in the vicinity until January 27, 1862, when it was placed in Gen. Jeff C. Davis' division and ordered to Lebanon, Mo., to join the second expedition to Springfield under Gen. Curtis. The battery was a part of Gen. Curtis' command at Pea Ridge, Ark., fought March 7 and 8, 1862. Subsequently the

battery was divided, and one section under Lieut. H. Barnes was left at Cassville, in Southwestern Missouri. Mr. French went with another division to Helena, Ark., where it remained until the spring of 1863, after which it joined the army of Gen. Grant, destined to operate against Vicksburg. It took part in the battles of Port Hudson, Champion's Hill and Black River Bridge, at which place, by order of Gen. Lawler, it charged with the infantry upon the enemy's works, crossed the ditch surrounding the parapet, mounted their works, and again opened fire on them. This battery was in the front during the entire siege of Vicksburg, and upon the surrender of that place took part in the expedition against Johnston and assisted in the second taking of Jackson, Miss. Returning to Vicksburg, a part of the Thirteenth Army Corps was transferred to the Department of the Gulf. In 1863 it left for Carrollton, La., where it was joined by Lieut. Barnes, and remained in New Orleans until August, 1864; then it formed against Mobile Bay and was in the engagement at Forts Gaines, Morgan and Powell. Returning to New Orleans, Mr. French came to Springfield, Ill., and was discharged September 14, 1864. He lived near Galva, Ill., and was married December 25, 1867, to Miss Julia M. Stanton, daughter of D. R. and Mary (Brace) Stanton. This union resulted in the birth of the following children: Walter M. (born October 22, 1868), Willie B. (born March 12, 1872), Freddie (deceased, born November 26, 1874), Frank L. (born November 26, 1874), Roy E. (born February 25, 1879), Delma J. (born December 3, 1880), Nettie M. (born June 15, 1884) and John H. (born June 16, 1888). Mr. French came to Nebraska in the fall of 1872, took a soldier homestead, and now has 160 acres of excellent land, all fenced and well improved. He has forty-five acres of good tame grass, raises a good grade of stock, selling quite a number every year, and is one of the representative farmers of this section. He is a member of Richardson Post No. 60, G. A. R., at Harvard. He is a Republican in politics.

Louis F. Fryar, ex-county clerk, Clay Center, Neb. There are few men of the present day

whom the world acknowledges as successful, more worthy of honorable mention, or whose life's history affords a better example of what may be accomplished by a determined will and perseverance, than Louis F. Fryar. He owes his nativity to Darke County, Ohio, where he was born on November 1, 1842, his parents being Hezekiah and Delilah (Spencer) Fryar, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Maryland. The parents both spent the greater part of their lives and died in Darke County, Ohio. Louis F. Fryar passed his boyhood days in securing an education in the common schools, and in 1860 went to Rock Island County, Ill., where in 1861 he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served four years and nine months in the War of the Rebellion. Returning to Illinois, he resumed farming and continued this until his removal to Nebraska in 1869. He first located in Thayer County, and in the fall of 1870 he came to Clay County, locating at Liberty Farm. When the town of Fairfield was founded a year and a half later, he removed to that place and engaged in the agricultural implement business. In 1882 he removed to Clay Center, where he has since resided. Mr. Fryar has always been a staunch Republican in politics and was elected by that party in the fall of 1881, as clerk of Clay County, which position he filled in a highly creditable manner for eight years, three successive terms. He was married to Miss Laura A. Bancroft, a native of New Hampshire and a distant relative of the famous historian of that name, and the fruits of this union have been four living children, Louis C., Mabel, Myrtle and Earl. Mr. Fryar is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, being past master of Clay Center Lodge No. 139. He is also a K. of P., and belongs to the A. O. U. W. and G. A. R. He is one of the prominent men of the county.

William L. Gaddis, farmer and proprietor of an express line, Harvard, Neb. Mr. Gaddis, one of the most highly respected and deservedly popular citizens of Harvard, was born in Clinton County, Ohio, on August 11, 1852, and is the son of Allen and Sarah J. (Yeo) Gaddis, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and born in Fayette

County, and the latter born near Winchester, Frederick County, Va. William L. Gaddis was early taught the duties of farm life and received his education in the common schools. In early manhood he learned the carpenter's trade and in 1879 he emigrated to the West, settling on a farm near Harvard, Neb. He subsequently bought a farm of 160 acres in Linn Township, Clay County, and this he still owns, also a fine residence, and in Harvard two business houses. In 1884 he removed from his farm to Harvard, and for the past two years has been proprietor of an express line. He was married on February 28, 1882, to Miss Rillie Burdick, a native of Juneau County, Wis., born February 10, 1859, and the daughter of Jared and Isabel (Jones) Burdick, her father a native of New York State and her mother of the Old Dominion. Mr. and Mrs. Gaddis are the parents of an only son, Earl B., who was born on March 22, 1885. Mr. Gaddis is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, the A. O. U. W., also the Select Knights, and in politics affiliates with the Republican party. He is a thorough-going, industrious man and possesses in an eminent degree those qualities which are necessary to success. He is a first-class citizen and he and his wife are highly respected. Both are members of the Christian Church.

Charles E. Gaddis, dealer in confectionery, etc., Harvard, Neb. The American people, now the wealthiest, are rapidly acquiring the cognomen of the most luxurious people in the world. In their love of a rich diet they show their good sense, and their high living is seen in the enormous amount of work, both mental and physical, which they perform. It is for this reason that the manufacture of candy and fruit preserves has come to be one of the greatest interests of our country, and the establishments in this line rank in standing and extent of trade with any class of business concerns. One of these institutions is conducted by Mr. Charles E. Gaddis, who was born in Warren County, Ohio, on April 23, 1859, and is the son of Allen and Sarah J. (Yeo) Gaddis, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the grandson of William Gaddis. His maternal grandparents were John and Elizabeth Yeo. To the marriage of Mr. and

Mrs. Gaddis were born a family of six sons and six daughters, five of whom are living. The father died about 1865, and the mother in February, 1890. Charles E. Gaddis, as soon as large enough, assisted on his father's farm in his native county until twenty years of age, or until 1879, when he made his way to Clay County, Neb., and for five years tilled the soil in the vicinity of Harvard. In 1884 he located in Harvard, and in March, 1885, he became the owner of a confectionery establishment, which he has very successfully conducted ever since. He was married on June 25, 1885, to Miss Allie M. Dalton, a native of Indiana, who bore him one child, Clara Irene, whose birth occurred on February 17, 1888. Mr. Gaddis is a member of the A. O. U. W., and in politics he affiliates with the Republican party. He is the owner of one-half of the opera house block in Harvard, which property he and H. H. Disbrow erected in 1888. Mr. Gaddis is also the owner of other business property in Harvard. He began with nothing, and, although young, he is now in good circumstances. He has those characteristics of energy, promptness and sobriety which ever secure success.

Casper W. Gardner, butcher, Harvard, Neb. Among the many fine meat stores of Harvard, none are more worthy of consideration than that conducted by Mr. Casper W. Gardner. Courteous attention awaits customers at this store, while confidence in the proprietor and his assistants is fully justified. Mr. Gardner owes his nativity to Belmont County, Ohio, where his birth occurred on November 26, 1847, and he is one of nine children, five of whom are living, born to the union of Andrew and Susan (Mercer) Gardner, the former a native of West Virginia, born in 1813, and the latter born in 1823. The father, who was a successful farmer, died in June, 1880, and the mother died a year later. Casper W. Gardner accompanied his parents to Lee County, Iowa, when but two and a half years of age, and was there reared on a farm. At the age of twenty-three years he emigrated to Nebraska, and after stopping a few months in Lincoln City, in June, 1871, came to Clay County, where he took a pre-emption of 160

acres near Harvard. He resided on this a year and then sold his right and secured a position as baggage master on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, holding the same for one year. He then followed the carpenter's trade for three years, and later learned the butcher's trade, which he has continued ever since. For the past ten years he has conducted a meat market of his own, and has been very successful, now carrying on a thriving trade. He was married on December 15, 1880, to Miss Ella Nora Moore, a native of Clinton County, Ohio, born December 1, 1858, and the daughter of Taylor and Eleanor J. (Tiegue) Moore. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner have had four children: Nora, Ruby, Clyde and Erna, of whom Nora died, aged twenty-one months. Mr. Gardner is a member of the A. F. & A. M., the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A. In politics he is a Republican. He is an enterprising business man, and has many warm friends.

Daniel W. Garver. Among the individuals of the present day worthy of honorable mention is the subject of this sketch. He first saw the light of day in Franklin County, Pa., October 20, 1850, his parents being Benjamin and Barbara (Bender) Garver, who were born in Pennsylvania and Maryland, respectively. Daniel W. was reared to manhood in the "Keystone State," came to Illinois in 1869, and there completed a very liberal education in the State Normal School at Normal, Ill. He followed school-teaching as a profession from the age of sixteen years until 1883, but also followed farming from 1872 up to that time. In the spring of 1872 he came to Clay County, Neb., and pre-empted a quarter section of land in Lone Tree Township, where he has since resided, having purchased an additional eighty acres adjoining, in Section 29. In the fall of 1873 he was elected county superintendent of schools, and filled this position in a faithful and highly efficient manner for one term of two years. He then taught school in the county until 1883, since which time he has devoted his attention to his farm and to the raising of stock, in which enterprises he has been one of the most successful in his township. He has always supported the principles of

the Republican party and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He was married on September 20, 1874, to Miss Sarah R. Epley, a native of Stephenson County, Ill., and a daughter of Peter and Mary (Heckman) Epley, and by her he has a family of three children: Clytie B., Harry G. and Frederick B.

Isaac Gill, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. In the history of Glenville and Glenville Township, in the development, growth and continued advance to communities of wealth and influence in the county, Isaac Gill has borne a prominent part. He was originally from the Keystone State, where his birth occurred on July 7, 1828, and his parents, John and Myra P. (Arnold) Gill, were natives also of Pennsylvania, the father born in 1807 and the mother in 1817. Being compelled to work for a living at an early day, Isaac was enabled to obtain but a slight education, and when nineteen years of age he commenced learning the shoe-maker's trade with his uncle, Jacob Arnold, of Snyder County, Pa. After continuing with him for two years he opened a shop in Union County, Pa., where he remained five years, doing a first-class business and then sold out and returned to his uncle, in whose employ he entered. Three years later he formed the notion of going west, and consequently emigrated to Stephenson County, Ill., where he worked at his trade and followed farming for sixteen years. After that he emigrated to Nebraska and homesteaded a farm of eighty acres near his present home. About 1847 he married Miss Susanna M. Burns, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1826, and the daughter of John and Hannah (Reitz) Burns. To this union was born one child, Mary (now the wife of Jeremiah Epley, whom she married in 1870, and by him became the mother of seven children: George W., Eddie E., Ollie O., Laura A., Frank, Charles and Malinda B. This family recently moved to Albany, Ore.). After the birth of their daughter Mrs. Gill's health failed, and her death occurred in October, 1888. During the same year Mr. Gill sold his homestead to go west to Oregon with his son-in-law, but Mr. Epley not selling his place, Mr. Gill purchased his present home of

forty acres and is now prepared to spend the balance of his days in peace and comfort. On September 22, 1889, he was married to Mrs. Margaret Dutt, born May 25, 1826, and the youngest in a family of twelve children, the result of the union of John and Catherine (Croye) Knisley, natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Gill was a resident of the Keystone State until 1876, when she visited her son, William T. Stuftt, of Clay County, Neb., but returned to her home two years later. In 1886 she returned paying them another visit. Mr. Gill is a Republican in politics, and he and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church at Glenville. He is always ready to assist in all enterprises of a public nature and benefit, and is one of Glenville's foremost citizens.

Jacob H. Goehring, retired, Harvard, Neb. As an evidence of the usefulness and prominence to which those of foreign birth have seemed to attain in this county, attention may be directed to the subject of this sketch, a native of Bavaria, born January 24, 1832, and the son of Louis and Kate Goehring. Jacob H. Goehring came to America when but ten years of age, and spent his youth in New York State, working at the brewing business. He left the State of New York, went to St. Louis, and three years later to New Orleans, La., where he spent seven years. Returning northward to Peoria, Ill., he was married there in 1858 to Julia Schmidt. He afterward resided in Chicago for four years, in Racine, Wis., for four years, and then, in 1872, emigrated to Nebraska and settled in Harvard, Clay County. Since coming here he has given his principal attention to hotel-keeping until lately, and by his pleasant and hospitable manner made a success of that business. He retired from that, however, a few years ago, and is now living a retired life. He is regarded as reliable and straightforward, and has deservedly acquired a comfortable competency. To his marriage were born two interesting children: Adolph and Ida, both of whom are married. In politics Mr. Goehring affiliates with the Democratic party, and is one of the many excellent citizens of the county.

Frank S. Granger is the assistant superintendent.

ent of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at Edgar, Neb., and in addition to filling this position with grace and ability, has been active in all public matters, and is a decided acquisition to the county. He was born in Detroit, Mich., January 4, 1855, and is a son of Sylvester and Mary (Verina) Granger, natives, respectively, of New York and France. He was reared and educated in the "Hoosier State" and at the early age of seventeen years began railroading as a brakeman for the Pennsylvania Railroad system, and remained with this company for five years, rising to the position of conductor. In 1880 he entered the employ of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad as brakeman, but was soon promoted to the position of conductor of a freight train and afterward to passenger conductor, then to train master. February 1, 1889, he was made assistant superintendent of the Southern Division of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and in this capacity has proved an influential, faithful and highly efficient officer. He has always been a great fancier of fine stock, especially horses, and while not professionally in the business he has some fine specimens of registered trotting horses and Jersey cattle in his stables at Edgar. He has always voted for the men and measures of the Republican party, and socially is a member of the K. of P. and is a Royal Arch Mason. It may be faithfully stated in conclusion that he is one of the representative and enterprising citizens of this portion of the State, and commands the respect of all for his many worthy social and business qualities. His marriage to Miss Lizzie Harnden, who was born near Montreal, Canada, took place September 15, 1877, and their union has resulted in the birth of three children: Ina, Charles E. and Harvey C. Mr. Granger is a stockholder in the Edgar Canning Factory.

William Griess, merchant, Sutton, Neb. Of the many prominent and successful business men of foreign birth now residing in Clay County, none are more deserving of mention than the subject of this sketch, who is not only a prominent merchant, but has held a number of positions of trust in the county. He is at present a member of the board of supervisors and is filling that position in a cap-

able and efficient manner. His birth occurred in Russia on November 7, 1852, and is the son of Henry and Margaretha (Roemmich) Griess, natives also of Russia. The father was born in August, 1819, and died in Sutton, Neb., in February, 1885. He was a farmer by occupation and followed this calling in his native country for many years. After coming to America he was engaged in the grain business in Sutton and was an active business man. The mother was born in April, 1821, and died in Sutton in January, 1888. William Griess, the fourth of five children, was early taught the duties of farm life, and received his education at the Odessa Reform School, where he spent four and a half years of his life and from which he graduated in 1868. The family then emigrated to America, settled in Clay County, Neb., in 1873, and William remained on the farm for five years. He then came to Sutton and for six years was engaged in the grain business, continuing until 1885. In 1883, however, he engaged in the general merchandising business and continued the two until 1885, since which time he has been merchandising. His present business building was completed in 1888, and is a brick, 100x24 feet, and one of the best-furnished stores in this part of Nebraska. He is doing a good business. Mr. Griess is an uncompromising Republican, and in 1888 was elected a member of the county board. He is also a member of the Sutton council. He was married in 1873 to Miss Kate Ochsner, a native of Russia, born in 1856, and to them have been born six children: William F., Lydia K., Maggie S., Mary A., Leon K. and Frieda H. Mr. Griess is an old settler of Clay County, and one of its representative men. He and family are members of the German Reformed Church. He still owns the farm four miles north of Sutton, consisting of 560 acres of well-improved land.

P. Griess, grain dealer, Sutton, Neb. No better proof of the advancement of Clay County, and especially the town of Sutton, within the last ten years can be shown, than the dimensions which the grain traffic has assumed. One of the largest dealers and best-known business men of Sutton is P. Griess, who was born in Russia Feb-

ruary 14, 1851, and is the son of Henry and Margaretha (Roemmich) Griess, both of whom were natives of Russia. P. Griess was the third of five living children, and was reared in Russia, attending school at Odessa, where he remained four and a half years, and graduating from the school in 1868. He then came with his parents to the United States, settled in Clay County, Neb., in 1873, and for twelve years was engaged in farming. Since then he has been in the grain business, is the owner of two elevators in Sutton, and does all the grain business on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at this point. He is the owner of 600 acres of land four and a half miles northwest of Sutton, and has it all well improved. He was married in 1870 to Miss Sophia Grosshans, a native also of Russia, born September 17, 1850, and the fruits of this union have been nine children: Theodore, Henry, John, William, Edward, Albert, Ferdinand, Lydia and Gustave M. In politics Mr. Griess is Democratic, but cast his first presidential vote for R. B. Hayes. As a farmer Mr. Griess was one of the best in Clay County, and October 19, 1885, he removed to the town of Sutton from his farm. In 1888 he was elected a member of the Sutton school board, and filled that position in a highly creditable manner. He is one of the old settlers of Clay County, and one of the leading citizens. He is a member of the German Reformed Church.

Elias G. Groff, surveyor, Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Groff, who is the present able and efficient incumbent of the office of county surveyor, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., on January 11, 1828, and is one of the following children born to Mark S. and Nancy (Good) Groff: Elias G., Solomon G. (a resident of Lancaster County, Pa.), Marks G. (a resident of Hannibal, Mo.), Frances (wife of Christian S. Hoffman, Esq., of Lancaster County), John G. (deceased), Michael G. (resides in Lancaster County), Anna (deceased, who was the wife of Moyer Hoover, of Lancaster County), Catherine (wife of Lewis Wingenroth, of the same county), and Elizabeth (wife of Mr. Aaron D. Christ, of Du Page County, Ill.). The parents were both natives of Lancaster County, Pa., where

they spent their entire lives, the father being a descendant of one of the earliest and most influential families of that State and county. His ancestor, Hans Graaf, located in said county in 1717, and was the first settler of Earl Township, which was so named in honor of him, and has since been divided into Earl, Earl East and Earl West. Elias G. Groff was reared to manhood in his native county, secured an academic education, which he later improved by attending the State Normal School and by private study during the thirteen years he taught school in his native county. He became proficient as a teacher, and was for three years principal of the public schools at New Holland in Lancaster County. He also studied civil engineering, which he followed, together with abstracting, settling of estates and conveyancing of real estate after his time of "pedagoguing," until he left for the West in 1879. He came direct to this county, located upon a farm near Inland, whence, in 1882, upon his qualifications in civil engineering becoming known, he was appointed county surveyor to fill a vacancy then existing. The following year he was elected to this office, and has held that position continuously from that time to the present by re-election. It is needless to say he has discharged the duties in a highly efficient and capable manner. He was married, March 11, 1858, to Miss Catherine A. Ditterderfer, a native also of Lancaster County, Pa., and a descendant, too, of one of the prominent pioneer families of that region. She died October 7, 1887, having borne him the following children: Anna Mary (wife of William H. Sheets, of Clay County), David D. (deceased), Frederick W. (deceased), Charles C. and Helen Amelia (the latter two now at home). Mr. Groff was originally a Whig in politics, and was a warm advocate of the Union cause during the late war, holding a position in the United States revenue service soon after the Rebellion. He has been a staunch Republican since the organization of the party, and has always taken an active interest in the welfare of his party both here and in his former home, where he also held for ten years the office of justice of the peace, school director for thirteen years, and other local

offices of more or less importance. Socially he is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., and is also a member of the Encampment. He was originally a member of the Reformed Church of the United States, and was closely identified in his former home with church and Sunday school work, having superintended the Sunday school of his church for twenty-two years. Since his residence here he has affiliated with the Congregationalists, and is a consistent member and trustee of that religious body.

Henry Grosshans, president of First National Bank, Sutton, Neb. In looking over a comparative statement of the institutions of a financial character doing business in this city, we find them in comparison with the same class of organizations elsewhere, solvent, prosperous and useful in the highest degree. The First National Bank adds no little to this, and is one of the best and most substantial of its kind in the State. The president of this bank, Mr. Grosshans, was born in Russia on March 13, 1859, and is the son of John and Christina (Melhaffe) Grosshans, natives of Germany. The father's birth occurred in 1820, and he is now a resident of Clay County, Neb. The mother died in Russia in 1863. Mr. Grosshans, the youngest of eight living children, came to the United States in 1873, and in the fall of that year settled in Clay County. He followed farming for two years, and after that was in the grain business for seven years. From that time up to 1889 he was in the agricultural implement business, and in November of that year he was elected president of the First National Bank, which position he is holding at the present time. In politics he is a Republican, and in 1887 was elected mayor of Sutton, which position he held for one year. He has always taken a deep interest in political affairs. In 1883 he was married to Miss Lizzie Zimbelman, a native of Russia, born in 1863, and they have two children: Henry J. and Herbert A. He and wife are members of the German Reformed Church, and are highly respected residents of the county, where they have made their home for the past sixteen years.

I. M. Grubb, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville,

Neb. In the history of Inland Township, in its development, growth and continued advance to communities of wealth and influence in the county, I. M. Grubb has borne a prominent part. Born in McMinn County, Tenn., in 1839, he is the son of William and Mahala (Anderson) Grubb, natives of Tennessee and Virginia, respectively. The father followed farming in Tennessee in his younger days, and was married about 1823, first to a Miss Plank, who bore him six living children: John, Mary, James, Margaret, Elizabeth Ann and Sarah Emiline. The mother of these children died in 1834, and his second marriage was to our subject's mother, in 1835. To the last union were born five children: William L., Isaac M., Henry S., Peter J. and Allen W. The father died in Tennessee in 1846, and the mother in 1887. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Abijah and Mary Anderson, were natives of Delaware. I. M. Grubb passed his boyhood days in McMinn County, Tenn., and started out for himself as a farmer in 1861. In 1862 he enlisted in Company B, Sixteenth Battalion Tennessee Cavalry, and was in the fight of Chickamauga, also a number of skirmishes. He received his discharge in 1863, and afterward engaged in farming. In 1866 he emigrated to Henry County, Iowa, and was there married in the following year to Miss Sarah M. Anderson, daughter of Peter and Sarah Anderson, of Iowa. Mr. Grubb is a carpenter by trade, and while in Iowa worked at this with success, from 1866 to 1878, when he emigrated to Clay County, Neb. He bought 160 acres of land, to which he has added, and now has 200 acres of excellent land. It was all prairie, but this he has improved, and is given a recognized position among the leading agriculturists of this township. In politics he is independent, and in all matters of education and progress he takes a warm interest. He reared three children, but only two are now living: Laura (died in 1873), Joseph P. (at home) and Frank A. (also at home). Mr. Grubb was justice of the peace in Inland Township in 1880, and he has been a member of the school board in District No. 61. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church.

Elmer E. Haigrove, attorney, Sutton, Neb.

This prominent member of the legal profession was born at Jacksonville, Ill., on August 7, 1861, and is the son of William J. and Minerva J. (Whitlock) Hairgrove, the father born in Alabama in 1832 and the mother at Jacksonville, Ill., in 1833. The father was a successful agriculturist, but is now retired. Of the four children born to his marriage, Elmer E. is the youngest. He first attended the public schools of Jacksonville, and in 1882 graduated from Illinois College at that place. In 1884 he graduated from Drake University at Des Moines, Iowa, law department, and afterward located for the active practice of his profession at Waverly, Ill., where he continued until March, 1888, when he came to Sutton. There, the May following, he was admitted to the Clay County bar. For two terms he was city attorney of Waverly, Ill., and is a young man of unusual ability and promise. He is doing a good business and is an energetic student. On December 11, 1884, he was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Gray, a native of Keokuk, Iowa, born on April 3, 1865, and to them has been born one child, Anna E. Mr. Hairgrove is a member of Sutton Lodge No. 75, K. of P., and he and Mrs. Hairgrove are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. M. Halloran, grain and coal dealer, Inland, Neb. Among the enterprising business houses of this town, whose operations are worthy of record in a work of this kind, is that of Mr. J. M. Halloran, dealer in grain and coal. This business was established here in 1887 by Mr. Halloran, and in it he has been very successful. This gentleman was born in La Salle County, near La Salle, Ill., in 1862, and is the eldest of five children, the result of the union of Michael and Johanna (Douvan) Halloran. The father was born in Ireland, but about 1855 he immigrated to this country and settled on a farm in La Salle County, Ill., where he married Miss Johanna Douvan, who bore him these children: John M., Mary, Nellie, Michael and Maggie. Later the father moved to Woodford County, Ill., farmed there for a few years, and came with his family to Adams County, Neb., settling on land purchased of the railroad company in 1878. He has become a large land holder and

has over a thousand acres. He started to buy grain in a town (Halloran Station, Adams County, Neb.), named after himself, in 1884, and there he still resides, engaged in that business. In politics he is strongly Democratic. In 1887 our subject started in the grain business in Inland, Clay County, Neb., and has continued this successfully since. He also has a tract of land in Clay County, which he is actively engaged in improving. Like his father he is Democratic in his political principles, and is interested in all matters relating to the good of the county.

Nels Hanson, farmer and stock raiser, Sutton, Neb. In the history of Clay County, in its development, growth and continued advance to a community of wealth and influence, Mr. Hanson has borne a prominent part. He is one of the substantial farmers, and the neatness and system displayed in and about his farm indicate to a certainty the progressive and intelligent citizen that he is. He was born in Denmark on October 25, 1850, and there received a good practical education in the common schools. He then began tilling the soil, and this continued until 1872, when he emigrated to the United States, landing in New York, but locating a short time afterward in Madison County, Ill. After remaining there a short time he went to Du Page County, and after a residence there of four years, immigrated to Nebraska. He purchased a claim, now his present home, and soon was actively engaged in improving the same. In 1877 he was married to Miss Cary Gormsen, a native of Denmark, and to them were born four children: Mary E., Hans M., Willie and Dora. By careful management and economy Mr. Hanson has become the owner of 200 acres in this township and eighty acres in Sutton Township. He has his farm under fence, has a good barn, good cattle sheds, wind-mill, granaries, and, in fact, has everything to contribute to comfort. Mr. Hanson is the son of Hans Nelson and Mary (Nelson) Hanson, natives also of Denmark.

Albert Hardy, farmer and stock-raiser, Fairfield, Neb. Mr. Hardy, one of the enterprising and substantial farmer of the county, owes his nativity to Meigs County, Ohio, where his birth

occurred on July 2, 1846, and is the fifth child born to the union of Russell and Elizabeth (Smith) Hardy, natives of Ohio and Virginia, respectively. The father spent his school days in Ohio, and was a coal miner by occupation. When about twenty-three years of age he married Miss Smith, and to this union were born six children, only two of whom are now living: John (of Athens County, Ohio) and Albert. The parents are still living, and make their home in Will County, Ill. Albert Hardy started out in life for himself at about the age of twelve years by commencing to learn the blacksmith's trade, but gave this up to join the army. He entered the United States service in 1862, in Company K, One Hundredth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was in the following engagements: Mount Vernon, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta campaign, Franklin and Nashville. He was wounded in the right leg at Chickamauga, and was discharged at Chicago, Ill., in 1865, after being in service two years, ten months and eleven days. At the close of the war he returned home, attended school for about a year, and then took up the occupation of a farmer in Wisconsin. He was married on August 2, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Fishburn, daughter of John and Martha (Cox) Fishburn, who moved to Will County, Ill., in 1831, and Mrs. Fishburn was the first white woman to reside in Wilmington, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Hardy were born two children: Otis (whose birth occurred on September 15, 1873, named after Otis Hardy, of Joliet, Ill.), and Cynthia Ella (born November 13, 1875). Mr. Hardy came to Clay County, Neb., in the fall of 1871, and homesteaded his present farm. He is one of the early settlers, and has witnessed the development and growth of the country. He was very fond of hunting, and as game was abundant, kept his family for the first two years in meat. The main herd of buffaloes at that time was between the Little Blue and the Republican Rivers, during the winter of 1871 and 1872. The last buffalo killed in Clay County was brought down in front of Mr. Hardy's house on April 30, 1874, and his front gate now marks the spot. Mr. Hardy is an active Prohibitionist in politics, and is a member of the G. A. R. He is

also a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He organized the first Sunday-school in Clay County, December 10, 1871, and takes a deep interest in all church work. He likes Nebraska, and intends making that State his permanent home. He is raising Jersey cattle, Poland-China hogs and a good grade of horses, and is one of the enterprising citizens of the country.

William Harrison, farmer and stock-raiser, Verona, Clay County, Neb. Mr. Harrison was originally from England, where his birth occurred on July 30, 1830, in Poulton Wilts, and is the second of seven children, four sons and three daughters born to the union of John and Ann (Ivey) Harrison, natives also of England. In 1854 our subject crossed the ocean, and settled in Caledonia, Racine County, Wis., where he cultivated the soil until September 1, 1864, when he enlisted in Company G, Forty-third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, under Col. Asa Cobb, and operated principally in Tennessee. He was taken sick in Johnsonville, of that State, sent to the hospital at Nashville and later to Milwaukee, Wis., where he remained until the close of the war. In 1871, he took a contract for building bridges on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, under Lindon, Lander & Shepherd, of Minneapolis, Minn., from 1869 to 1872. During that time he was treasurer of Caledonia Township. At the expiration of that term Mr. Harrison went to Nebraska on a visit, but liking the country quite well, concluded to locate and homesteaded his present farm in 1873, on Section 13, Town 6, Range 5 west. He was married on November 15, 1853, to Miss Ann Page, a native of Middlesex, England. She was born in 1829, being the oldest of eleven children, the result of the union of John and Ann (Fisher) Page. To Mr. and Mrs. Harrison were born eleven children, nine now living: John W., Elizabeth A. (wife of A. W. Hall), Richard Francis (deceased), Douglas L., Elmer E., Ulysses G., Isaac H. (deceased), George, Page, Albert and Robert W. The first experience of Mr. Harrison in Nebraska was three days in a sod-house 8x10 feet, through a storm of snow and hail, then in 1875 he experienced the plague of grass

hoppers, in 1879 the drought, and in 1880 and 1881 immense hail stones. During his residence here he has been township treasurer, school clerk of, his district, justice of the peace and has held numerous other local offices. He is a Republican in politics. Himself and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is Sunday-school superintendent and steward. He has an excellent farm of 480 acres, and fine groves, orchard and substantial buildings. In 1885 he and his sons went to Dundy County and took up six timber claims and two homesteads, which they have since improved until they are now valuable farms. Mr. Harrison, in connection with his sons, has 1,840 acres of land. J. W., D. L., E. E., Grant and A. W. Hall are living on their places and Mr. Harrison intends following soon. During the fall and winter the boys ran a sheller and threshing machine and are watching every opportunity to better their condition, but yet are not grasping. They assist in all laudable enterprises and extend a helping hand to their neighbors in distress.

William A. Hart. On his present homestead of 360 acres, situated near Edgar, Mr. Hart and his family have been residing since 1886, and there he is giving considerable attention to the propagation of cattle, and ships about one car-load each year. He was born in Macoupin County, Ill., January 30, 1858, and is a son of Malachi and Elsie (Cox) Hart, the former born in Morgan County, Ill., and the latter in Indiana. Mr. Hart followed the occupation of farming until his death, November 11, 1862, his wife surviving him at the present time, and residing in Sangamon County. William A. Hart remained with his mother until grown, receiving the most of his education and rearing in Sangamon County. At the age of twenty years he left his native State to come to Nebraska, and settled in Clay County, near the town of Edgar, purchasing and tilling a farm near the town, but afterward sold it and bought his present property in the year above named. His farm is situated three miles from Edgar and is one of the finest tracts of land for successful agricultural purposes in the county. It is all fenced and in a fair state of cultivation, and on it are erected a comfortable house and fair out-

buildings. He has an apple and cherry orchard comprising about 100 trees, and is also engaged in raising some small fruits, sufficient for home use. His marriage to Miss Ella Nall took place in Clay County, Neb., December 25, 1885, she being a native of Morgan County, Ill., but reared and educated in Clay County. Her father, B. F. Nall, still resides in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Hart have three children: Nola, Hazel and Earl. Mr. Hart and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he belongs to the Farmers' Alliance, and is now acting as justice of the peace of Edgar Township.

Moses Hartley, farmer, Harvard, Neb. This representative, substantial citizen of Clay County, Neb., was born in England, April 26, 1851, and is the son of Charles and Ann (Cluff) Hartley, with whom he came to America when but two years of age. The family settled in Stark County, Ill., where our subject spent his early life on a farm, and there he received his education. He was married February 22, 1877, to Miss Anna Willett, a native of Stark County, Ill., and the daughter of Hiram and Mary Willett. In 1880 Mr. Hartley emigrated to Nebraska, and first located in Leicester Township, Clay County, where he tilled the soil for six years. In 1887 he removed to Harvard and engaged in the livery business, conducting a large barn in that city until March 1, 1890, having as a partner during the last year and a half James Burns. This barn is one of the largest and best equipped in Clay County, and was built and founded by Mr. Hartley. This gentleman now owns a section of land in Leicester Township, Clay County, and his attention is given strictly to its management. Mr. and Mrs. Hartley have had four children: Charles Willett (born October 10, 1878), Leroy Earl (born October 27, 1880), Cora Pearl (born June 25, 1883) and Grace (whose birth occurred October 31, 1885). Mr. Hartley is a member of the M. W. A., and in politics affiliates with the Democratic party. In all his operations he is meeting with substantial evidences of success, results which all concede that he deserves.

M. L. Hartman, meat dealer, Harvard, Neb.

Among the go-ahead meat markets in Harvard that of Mr. M. L. Hartman stands prominently in the foreground. He established his business in Harvard in 1883, and has ever exhibited courtesy and fair dealing to all parties, which is the cause of his standing so well. Mr. Hartman was born in Hancock County, Ohio, February 13, 1854, and is the son of Amos and Eleanor (Trout) Hartman, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Hancock County, Ohio. The parents are now residing in Boone County, Iowa, and of the family of children born to their union five are now living. M. L. Hartman left his native county when ten years of age and went with his parents to Moin-gona, Boone County, Iowa, where he received a good public-school education. In 1874 he went to California, but the following year returned to Boone County and there learned the butcher's trade, which he has followed chiefly ever since. About 1876 he engaged in the butcher's business for himself, and in September, 1882, he came to Nebraska, spending one year at Aurora. In the fall of 1883 he came to Harvard, where he has since lived, and here he has conducted a meat market ever since, with the exception of one year that he spent on a farm. He is now a member of the firm of Hartman & Ayton, and is doing a successful business. He was married September 5, 1876, to Miss Sarah Sims, a native of Jasper County, Iowa, born February 9, 1857, and the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Slater) Sims, natives of England, who were married in America. Mr. and Mrs. Hartman have three children: Clifford, Harvey and Blanche. Mr. Hartman is a Republican in politics and takes a deep interest in that party. He owns two farms in Harvard Township, each of which contains 160 acres. He has made what he has by his own exertions, and is a first-class citizen.

Michael Helmers, farmer and stock-raiser, Harvard, Neb. A glance at the lives of many representative men whose names appear in this volume will reveal sketches of some honored, influential citizens, but none more worthy or deserving of mention than Michael Helmers. Mr. Helmers was born in Germany in 1844, received his education in the schools of that country, and in 1866 was mar-

ried there to Miss Maggie Brandt, a daughter of Chris and Adelheit (Yungen) Brandt, the former of whom died in 1870, in Germany, and the latter in this country in 1886. Mr. Helmers emigrated to Illinois from the old country in 1870, settled in Tazewell County, at Washington, and there tilled the soil until 1874, when he moved to Chatsworth, Livingston County, and from there to a farm near Strawn, in the same county. In 1882 he came to Nebraska, settled near Tracy, Clay County, and in 1885 came to his present farm, which consists of 200 acres of improved land. Since then he has tilled the soil and has been actively engaged in raising a good breed of cattle, hogs, sheep and horses. He has been quite successful since coming to Nebraska, and with his substantial buildings, good orchard, etc., is now prepared to enjoy life. To his marriage have been born eight children (four sons and two daughters are living): Jessie (born in 1867 and died at the age of four weeks), Christopher (born July 23, 1867), Michael (born July 22, 1869), Mary (born June 28, 1871), Jessie (born September 1, 1872), John (born December 28, 1873), Peter (born March 28, 1874) and Lena (born December 23, 1875). Mr. Helmers' parents, Michael and Jessie (Cli) Helmers, were natives of Germany, and were married in that country. There the mother died in 1858 and the father in 1886.

Albert Herrick is a successful merchant and liveryman of Ong, Clay County, and his fame as a business man is co-extensive with the county and surrounding country. He was born in Milwaukee, Wis., June 16, 1837, and is a son of August Herrick, who was born in Berlin, Germany, and was married there. They came to the United States about 1830, and settled in Milwaukee, but the mother's death occurred when her son, Albert, was but an infant. Albert Herrick resided in Milwaukee and Racine, Wis., until he was about nineteen years of age, then went to Ogle County, Ill., and from there enlisted on August 9, 1862, in Company H, Ninety-second Illinois, and served until he received his discharge in July, 1865. He participated in the battles of Chickamanga, Kennesaw Mountain, the battles in and around the siege

of Atlanta, and was in all the engagements in which Sherman participated on his memorable march to the sea. After receiving his discharge in North Carolina, he returned to Ogle County, Ill., and resided there until the fall of that year, when he removed to Boone County, Iowa, and was there married, May 15, 1867, to Miss Mary J. McMillan, a native of Pennsylvania, being there reared and educated. After farming in this State for two years, Mr. Herrick engaged in timber contracting for a railroad, and after following this business for a year, he moved to Madison County, Iowa, and resumed his farming operations. In 1871 he moved to Nebraska and settled in Clay County, taking up a homestead in Sutton Precinct, and here improved an excellent farm of 160 acres. It is furnished with fair buildings, a good young orchard, and is situated about two and a half miles from Sutton. In September, 1886, Mr. Herrick rented his farm and moved to Ong, where he first engaged in the livery business in the summer of 1889, also opening a grocery establishment on a smaller scale. He is doing a fair business, and has built up a reputation which goes far toward making him successful. He also owns considerable town property besides his farm, and has now a comfortable competency which he has gained through his own exertions. He is a Republican in politics, and although he does not aspire to positions of honor and trust, yet for six years he has been treasurer of his school district, No. 13, Sutton Township. He belongs to Sutton Post No. 19, G. A. R. He and wife are the parents of the following children: John, Emma, Lillie, Amelia, Anna, Charles, Mary, William and Albert. Mrs. Herrick and her daughters, Emma and Lillie, are members of the Presbyterian Church.

George A. Herzog, real-estate dealer, Harvard, Neb. The steady growth of Harvard and the rapid increase in population in the county have opened up a wide and important field of enterprise in the line of real estate. Many prominent citizens of Harvard are engaged in this business. Among those well known in this line, and whom familiarity with the city and experience in these transactions have fitted so eminently for the bus-

iness, is Mr. George A. Herzog. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, on August 12, 1850, was reared on a farm, and when sixteen years of age came to America. From 1867 until 1874 he resided near Buffalo, N. Y., where he was employed on a farm, and in the fall of the last named year he came to Clay County, Neb. Here he took an eighty-acre homestead in Leicester Township, tilled the soil on this until 1883, when he moved to Harvard. Here he was employed by an implement dealer for one year, and after that he was engaged in the insurance business, which he has followed ever since, having at the present time a first class line of companies. After he had been in the insurance business a year he added to it a real-estate business, and has since conducted the two together very successfully. His marriage was celebrated on October 7, 1877, to Miss Emma Parks, a native of Benton Harbor, Mich., she being the first white child born in that place, and the daughter of David B. and Alsona (Aldrich) Parks. Mr. and Mrs. Herzog are the parents of five children, as follows: Frank H., Arthur M., William H., Anna V. and Raymond H., of whom the first two are deceased. Mr. Herzog is a member of the German Reformed Church and the M. W. A. In politics he is Democratic and has been a member of the board of aldermen at Harvard for two years, being at present a member of the board. He still owns his old homestead in Leicester Township, and besides a good property in Harvard. He is a man of strict integrity and inflexible honesty, and is strictly reliable in all his dealings. He is now the owner of 520 acres of land, all in Clay County except 120 acres in Hamilton County. He commenced with nothing and has made all his property by industry and good business tact. He was one of thirteen children, all of whom are living, the youngest being twenty-four years of age, born to the union of George A. and Margaret (Rife) Herzog, both of whom still reside in Bavaria. Twelve of the children now reside in America.

Edmond Taylor Heuston was born in Jefferson County, Iowa, October 17, 1847, and is the fifth of eleven children born to Richard C. and Emma (Hull) Heuston, the former born in Mount Holly,

N. J., in 1817, and the latter in Newark, Ohio, in 1822. The father was a farmer and stock-raiser, and in 1841 moved to Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1859. In 1885 his widow with her family moved to Washington Territory, and are there now living. Edmund T. Heuston remained at home, assisting his mother in the care of the home farm until 1873, when he emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he entered his present farm as a timber claim, but not having success in starting his trees growing he gave it up as a tree claim and homesteaded it. He attended the district school near his home in Iowa, and was a student at the Axline Academy two terms. He was married, in 1875, to Helen S. Ingham, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Hyde) Ingham, of Washington County, Iowa. She was born January 28, 1851. Her union with Mr. Heuston resulted in the birth of seven children, six of whom are now living. Mr. Heuston is an active worker in the Republican party, has been a delegate to different conventions, and a member of the county central committee. In the fall of 1888 he was nominated and elected the first supervisor of his township, the county having just adopted the system of township organization. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and by his energy and enterprise has earned his present property.

Stephen A. D. Hinton, proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, Clay Center, Neb. This is one of the most comfortable hotels in the city, whose host, by able management, has secured a vastly increasing patronage, and contributes much to the house's desirability as a home for the traveling public. Mr. Hinton was born on March 13, 1860, in Shelby County, Ill., and is the son of John and Ellen (Whittington) Hinton. Stephen A. D. Hinton was reared to years of discretion in his native county, and received excellent educational advantages. He first attended the common schools, then the State Normal School, at Valparaiso, Ind., and a business college at Jacksonville, Ill. He afterward engaged in merchandising with his father in his native county, but in 1887 he came to Nebraska and located at Hastings, where he was engaged in abstract business. In March, 1888, he came to Clay Cen-

ter, where he has since conducted the hotel business and has also been an assistant in the county clerk's office. On March 13, 1884, his marriage with Miss Flora Shinkle was consummated, and the result of this union has been two children: Sarah Gertrude and Sylvia. In his political principles Mr. Hinton is Democratic. He is a member of the K. of P. and A. O. U. W.

Benjamin F. Hockett, farmer and stock-raiser, Harvard, Neb. In his farming operations in this county Mr. Hockett has pursued the same progressive and enterprising principles which have characterized his ancestors for many generations. He is a native of Guilford County, N. C., born January 13, 1829, and is the son of Samuel and Edith (Vestal) Hockett, natives of North Carolina, the father born about 1790, and the mother in 1800. In the spring of 1833 the parents removed to Morgan County, Ind., and there passed the closing scenes of their lives. Benjamin F. Hockett left Indiana in 1851, went to Indianola, Iowa, and there resided until April, 1852, when he was taken with the gold fever and crossed the plains to Northern California. He followed mining for about eighteen years, made considerable money, and on April 16, 1870, he returned to the East and settled in Des Moines, Iowa. He sold his mining interests and returned to Indiana, where he remained but a short time, and then again located in Iowa. In 1871 he came to Clay County, Neb., took a claim on the northwest quarter of Section 2, Township 7, Range 7 west, and there he has since resided. He has a fine farm of 160 acres, and has it well stocked with sixteen horses, seventy head of cattle and sixty hogs. He has a good young orchard and plenty of forest trees. In 1874 he was married to Miss Mary Eller, who was born in 1850, and who was the third in a family of ten children born to William and Catherine (Parnell) Eller, natives of North Carolina. To Mr. and Mrs. Hockett have been born ten children, eight of whom are still living: Edith M. (born February 19, 1875), Samuel W. (born November 2, 1876), Martha C. (born July 31, 1877), Ida B. (born November 10, 1879, and died August 22, 1882), Cora E. (born February 12, 1880), Robert V. (born June 29, 1882),

Alice (born November 23, 1883, and died October 12, 1884), Homer (born April 23, 1885), Ralph (born January 21, 1887) and Nellie (born November 23, 1889). Mr. Hockett is a member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 70, at Harvard, Neb., and until 1856 was a member of the Whig party, since which time he has affiliated with the Republicans. He is at present serving his fourth term as constable of Linn Township. Mr. Hockett is a grandson of the celebrated Nalan Hockett of North Carolina, who was the minister of the Society of Friends, noted throughout the State for his brilliancy.

John L. Hodges is a successful farmer and stockman of Clay County, and has continued to "pursue the even tenor of his way" until he is now one of the wealthy men of the county. He was born in Macoupin County, Ill., August 6, 1836, being a son of Daniel L. and Caroline (Blake) Hodges, who were born in Missouri and New Jersey, respectively, but both were reared in Illinois, and were there also married. Mr. Hodges was one of the early settlers of the State, and made his home there up to 1873, at which time he moved to Nebraska and settled on land in Clay County, on which a portion of the town of Edgar is now situated. Here he made his home until his death, which occurred in January, 1877, his first wife having died in Illinois. His second union took place about 1847. John L. Hodges is the second of two sons, and remained with his father until he attained his majority. He engaged in farming for himself in Macoupin County, and from there enlisted in May, 1864, in the One Hundred and Thirty-third Illinois Infantry for the 100-days' service, and was engaged in guarding prisoners at Rock Island, Ill., until his term of service had expired. In 1878 he purchased the place on which he is now living, which consisted of 160 acres of land, and on this farm he located with his family in 1884. His land is fertile and in an excellent state of cultivation, and on it are a good residence, substantial out-buildings and an excellent young orchard, which is just beginning to bear. He is quite extensively engaged in stock dealing and breeding, and he is the owner of some

exceptionally fine thoroughbred Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He contemplates engaging in the breeding of red-pollled cattle, which he considers superior to other fine breeds both as far as the milk is concerned and for beef. They are very hardy and good grazers. While a resident of Macoupin County, Ill., he was married March 26, 1857, to Jemima Rice, a daughter of Jasper Rice. Mrs. Hodges was born, reared and educated in Illinois, and for some time followed the occupation of school-teaching there. She and Mr. Hodges are the parents of three children: Edgar A. (who is married and resides in Clay County, Neb.), Charles (who is a young man and still resides at home), and Laura Mary (who is also at home and is engaged in teaching music). The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Hodges are members, and he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, being president of the local alliance and vice-president of the county alliance. He is a substantial farmer of the county, and in every respect deserves the success which has attended his efforts.

Edgar A. Hodges. One of the neatest, most home-like and best-managed places in Clay County, Neb., is that owned by Mr. Hodges, comprising 160 acres of land, nearly all of which is enclosed by a good hedge fence. He was born in Macoupin County, Ill., November 24, 1860, and is a son of J. L. Hodges, whose sketch precedes this. He grew to manhood on his father's farm in Illinois and received the advantages of the common schools, but at the age of twenty-one years began the battle of life for himself, and was married on his birthday, November 24, 1881, to Miss Emma Henderson, a daughter of D. M. Henderson. Mrs. Hodges was born in Greene County, but was reared, educated and married in Macoupin County, the latter county being hers and her husband's home for three years after the celebration of their marriage. In the fall of 1884 they moved to Nebraska and purchased their present property in Clay County, which he has since put in excellent farming condition. He has a fair house, and barns, etc., a good grove on the north, and an excellent bearing orchard of about 250 trees, consisting of

select varieties of apple, cherry, peach and plum trees. He also raises a quantity of small fruit, and expects to make a speciality of the fruit business. He gives considerable attention to the raising of fine stock, and keeps two fine horses for breeding purposes, one of the Black Hawk Morgan breed, and the other a Hambletonian, both of high grade. He also has a number of thoroughbred Poland China hogs, and his position relating to stock matters is conceded to be among the foremost in this portion of the State. He has always affiliated with the Republican party, and in the fall of 1889 was elected constable of his township, and is still ably serving in that capacity. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is sergeant-at-arms in his lodge. He and wife have two children, Jessie and Lawrence Earl.

Frederick J. Hoerger, hardware merchant, Sutton, Neb. No better proof of the advancement of Sutton within the last ten years can be shown, than the dimensions which the hardware trade has assumed. Among others, one of the largest is the well-known house of Frederick J. Hoerger, which was established in 1877. Mr. Hoerger owes his nativity to Holmes County, Ohio, where his birth occurred on January 17, 1852, and is the son of Henry and Catherine (Schmidt) Hoerger, natives of Germany. The father was born on January 12, 1815, and died in Holmes County, Ohio, on January 19, 1881. He came to the United States in 1833, and one year later settled in Holmes County, Ohio. The mother was born on October 26, 1818, and came to the United States in 1835. She is now residing on the old Ohio homestead. Of the nine children born to their union Frederick J. is the sixth in order of birth, and six are now living. Frederick J. Hoerger was reared to farm life, and received his education in his native State. At the age of seventeen years he began learning the wagon-maker's trade at Winesburg, Ohio, and followed this in Ohio until 1875, after which he emigrated to Nebraska, settled in Sutton, Clay County, and there he has since remained. For two years after coming here he followed his trade, and in 1877 engaged in the implement business, which he continued until 1881, though previous to

this, in 1879, he was in the hardware business, and since 1881 he has given his entire attention to the same. He carries a complete stock and is doing a good business. He was married in 1878 to Miss Catharine Scheufler, a native of the Buckeye State, born October 26, 1854, and the fruits of this union have been three children: Mabel L., Minnie V. and William F. Mr. Hoerger is a Democrat in politics, and cast his first presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden. He is a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges, and was for five years a member of the Sutton council. He is one of the representative business men of Clay County, and is a much-esteemed citizen. He and wife are members of the Lutheran Church. He is chairman of the Clay County Democratic Central Committee, and is a stock holder and vice-president of the Sutton Exchange Bank. He was one of the originators of the Sutton Creamery, which was established in 1883, and which, in 1889, made 368,893 pounds of butter.

Charles Hoevet. Mr. Hoevet was born in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, on June 3, 1832, being a son of William and Frederica (Smith) Hoevet, both of whom were born in Germany, and there resided until their death. The father was born on November 14, 1779, and died September 13, 1832, the grandfather's birth occurring in 1736, and his death in 1808. Mr. Hoevet is in possession of the genealogy of his family, which traces it back to the year 1139, and many members of the family were men of prominence. Charles Hoevet is the youngest of nine children, of whom four are still living: William, George, August and himself. After serving an apprenticeship of four years in the mercantile business, Mr. Hoevet emigrated to this country, arriving here in June, 1852, and chose farming for his calling; he staid a few years in Indiana, then located in Kankakee County, Ill., where he made his home until the spring of 1880, when he came to Nebraska and settled on the farm he now occupies. His marriage to Miss Elizabeth Ritter took place in 1859, she being the daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Hamman) Ritter, who were born in Ohio. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoevet, of whom seven are living

at present: Louis, Charles, Delia, Otto, Edward, Albert and Floyd. Mr. Hoevet has been a Republican in politics since the organization of the Republican party, has held offices of trust in Illinois, and is at present a member of the county board of Clay County.

A. J. Hull, farmer and stock-raiser, Spring Ranche, Neb. In Pennsylvania, in the year 1832, there was born to Francis and Polly (Lee) Hull a son, who is now taken as the subject of this sketch. The parents were both natives of the Keystone State, and the father was a sailor by occupation, first mate of the steamer "Madison," running between Buffalo and Chicago. He received a fair education in the common schools, learning the miller's trade, which he followed in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., until 1837, when he went on the lake as a sailor. He went to California in 1849, embarked in the fur business, and was killed by a grizzly bear in 1857. A. J. Hull came to La Salle County, Ill., when seven years of age, and, as his mother was deceased, he lived with an uncle, receiving his education in the common schools. Subsequently he learned the trade of plasterer or stucco workman, and began working for himself at the age of fifteen years. He followed his trade in connection with contracting and building, at different places, until 1862, and in that year he entered the United States service, in the Seventy fourth Indiana Infantry, and participated in the battles of Perryville, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and numerous other minor engagements. He lost the hearing in his right ear at Chickamauga, and was discharged at Louisville, Ky., in 1865, after being in service for three years. Mr. Hull was married in 1867 to Mrs. Susan Hill McCagg, of Orland, Steuben County, Ind., and by this union became the father of two children: Eugene and Frank. He lost his wife in Clay County, Neb., in 1875, and was married the second time, in 1877, to Miss Margaret Anderson, the daughter of James and Nancy (Langly) Anderson, natives of Erie County, Pa. Mr. Hull came to Clay County, Neb., in 1871, homesteaded a farm, and was among the first settlers of that county. In 1877 he purchased his present home,

the north half of the northwest quarter of Section 8-5-8, Spring Ranche Township, Clay County, Neb. In 1881 he had charge of the mason work of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in Colorado, for one year, after which he was in the Elk Mountain range mines for five years, and was also superintendent of the Menominee Gold & Silver Mining Company. When Mr. Hull first settled in Nebraska game was plentiful, and he spent a great deal of his time in hunting, of which employment he was very fond. He has seen the full development of the country to its present prosperous condition, and is one of the energetic and successful citizens of Clay County. He takes an active interest in politics, and votes the Republican ticket. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Josiah N. Hursh, county superintendent of schools, Clay Center, Neb. This prominent and enterprising citizen owes his nativity to Franklin County, Pa., where his birth occurred on November 24, 1852, and his parents, John and Catherine (Niswander) Hursh, were natives of the same State and of German descent. The father died in 1855, and the mother and family emigrated to Illinois in 1870. Here Josiah N. attended the Wesleyan and State Normal Universities, and later followed teaching in that State. In 1884 he came to Clay County, Neb., took charge of the Fairfield schools, and there continued until the fall of 1887, when he was elected county superintendent. So great was his popularity, and so well did he fill this position, that he was re-elected in the fall of 1889. He studied law while in Illinois, and the same characteristics which marked his progress in the school room, were prominent in his legal studies, and after a thorough course of instruction he was admitted to the bar in that State. At present he is a member of the bar in Clay Center and is a man of judgment and unusual ability. In October, 1887, he married Miss Nellie H. Loomis, a native of Lee County, Iowa. Prof. Hursh is a Republican in politics and a strong adherent to that party. Socially he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., the I. O. O. F., and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

George Hutton, farmer and stockman, Harvard, Neb. Mr. Hutton, one of the most successful and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers of the county, was born at Sterling, Whiteside County, Ill., in 1850, and is the second of six children, the result of the union of George and Louisa (Davis) Hutton, natives of Kentucky, the former born in 1823 and the son of Spencer Hutton. George Hutton passed his youthful days in his native State, and when twenty-one years of age went to Whiteside County, Ill., settled at Sterling, and there engaged at brick-laying and also followed milling. He married our subject's mother in Kentucky about 1842, and reared a family of six children: Ann, George, Mary, Spencer, Cordelia and Stephen. The mother was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and died July 18, 1861. The father enlisted in the army at Sterling in 1862, and was a brave and fearless soldier. He is still living and makes his home in Sterling, Ill. George Hutton passed his boyhood days in Whiteside County, Ill., and attended school at Sterling, where he received a good, practical education. He started out for himself at the early age of thirteen and first worked on a farm. In 1873 he married Miss Margaret Lyle, a native of Ogle County, Ill., born in 1844, and the daughter of James and Agnes (Allison) Lyle, natives of Scotland, the father born in 1811 and the mother in 1812. Her parents came to the United States at an early day and died in Illinois in 1866 and 1875, respectively. Mr. Hutton engaged in farming in Whiteside County, Ill., in 1875, and three years later emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he now resides. He purchased 160 acres of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company and there resided until 1881, when he returned to Illinois and settled at Rock Falls, where he worked in a machine shop. In 1886 he came back to Nebraska and settled again on this farm, where he is at present engaged in farming and stock raising. He has a fine farm, good orchard and grove and is comfortably fixed. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is much respected by all. Mr. Hutton has been a member of the school board in District No. 37, is interested in schools and churches, and

all things for the good of the county. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in his political views affiliates with the Democratic party. To his marriage were born the following children: Annie L. (born November 27, 1873), George E. (born March 16, 1875), Janette L. (born July 31, 1876), Charles R. (born October 30, 1879), Mary F. (born September 3, 1881), and Agnes J. (born March 22, 1887).

John W. Iliff, farmer and stock-raiser of Eldorado Township, Clay County. Mr. Iliff is one of many young men who came to this county while comparatively in its infancy, and by their energy, pluck and enterprise have established for themselves and families good homes. He was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., March 30, 1852, the third in a family of seven children born to the union of Alpheus and Mary E. (Philhower) Iliff. His father was a native of New Jersey, born August 15, 1828, attending school and learning the blacksmith's trade in his native State. He married at about the age of twenty-three years. He enlisted in the United States service in July, 1862, in Company E, New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battles of Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Bull Run, and skirmishes and battles of lesser importance. He was captured at the battle of the Wilderness while on detached duty, and was compelled to spend seven months in Andersonville Prison. In August, 1863, he was honorably discharged, after having served three years. He is still living on a farm near Pottersville. The subject of this sketch spent his school days in New Jersey, and at the age of eighteen began life for himself as a farm hand. In 1877 he went to Bureau County, Ill., and worked on a farm for about seven years, when he removed to Clay County, Neb., and engaged in farming on a farm which he bought in 1882, consisting of 160 acres of land, which he has since improved with a good, comfortable dwelling, barn, outbuildings, fences, etc., and by planting fruit and forest trees. He was married, in 1885, to Miss Barbara Osborn, daughter of Wesley and Sarah (Barnet) Osborn, natives of Pennsylvania, and by this union has one child, Fermin H. Mr. Iliff has been exceedingly successful since coming to Ne-

braska, and is well satisfied to make his permanent home in this State. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is the present supervisor of Eldorado Township. He is a Republican in his political views, and takes an active interest in politics, as he does in all public enterprises.

Ira B. Iliff, a well-known farmer of Clay County, Neb., owes his nativity to that land of progressive farmers—Iowa—his birth occurring in Fayette County on June 10, 1856. He is a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Kirkpatrick) Iliff, natives of Ohio and Indiana, respectively. Ira B. Iliff was reared and educated in his native State and county, and in the month of May, 1872, came to Clay County, Neb., and purchased the farm where he now resides of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. He has been a successful farmer and stockman ever since, and he fully deserves the success which has attended his efforts, for he has spared neither time nor energy in the acquirement of his present possessions. He has proved a valuable citizen to the county, and has always contributed liberally of his means in the support of worthy enterprises. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in his political views is a Prohibitionist. His worthy wife, before her marriage, was Miss Laura Hancock, who was born in Taylor County, Iowa, and is a daughter of A. A. Hancock, who resides in Lone Tree Township, Clay County, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Iliff are the parents of two children, Winfred and Clarence, and are members of the United Brethren Church, enjoying the respect and esteem of all who know them.

George F. Iliff, like his brother, whose sketch immediately precedes this, was born in Fayette County, Iowa, January 20, 1852, and in his youth was brought up to learn the details of farm work. After attending the common schools until he had acquired a fair education he entered Western College, Iowa, in which institution he was an earnest and hard-working student for some time. Since October, 1873, he has been a resident of Clay County, Neb., and almost immediately became the owner of his present excellent farm, and here he is now giving his attention to tilling the soil and raising stock, his enterprises meeting with excellent

results, as they fully deserve to do. In addition to his homestead farm he owns an adjoining eighty acres on Section 1, in Glenville Township. January 2, 1876, he was married to Miss Maggie J. Kincaid, a native of Fayette County, Iowa, and their union has resulted in the birth of five children: Amy, Fannie, Reid K., Grace and Ruth. Although formerly a Republican in politics Mr. Iliff is now a Prohibitionist, and socially belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. He and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church and are considered useful and valuable citizens.

Luther H. Ingersoll is possessed of advanced ideas and progressive principles regarding agricultural life, and being industrious and a shrewd manager he is now one of the well-to-do farmers and stockmen of Lone Tree Township. His birth occurred in Fayette County, Iowa, February 25, 1856, and he is a son of Franklin F. and Frances A. (Risley) Ingersoll, who were born in the State of New York and are energetic tillers of the soil. Luther H. Ingersoll was reared to manhood in his native State and secured a good education in the common schools and in Iowa College, at Grinnell, Iowa, and afterward followed the occupation of school-teaching off and on, until 1886, at the same time being engaged in farming and stock raising. In the fall of 1882 he came to Nebraska and located in Hamilton County, but in March, 1888, he came to Clay County, and purchased the property where he now lives and where he has since been engaged in farming. His estate comprises 220 acres, 80 acres in Section 19, and 140 acres in Section 8. To his wife, formerly Mrs. Jane B. (Cruikshank) Webber, he was married December 31, 1885, she being a native of Scotland. She and Mr. Ingersoll have one son, Charles H., and by her former husband, John A. Webber (deceased), she had the following family: Mary A. and Jessie M. Mr. Ingersoll is a Prohibitionist in his political views, is a member of the district school board and the Farmers' Alliance, and he and Mrs. Ingersoll are members of the United Brethren Church.

A. G. Jacobs is a contractor and builder and farmer of Clay County, Neb., his farm, which now

comprises eighty (although he formerly owned 320) acres, being situated in Edgar Township. He was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, October 11, 1834, and is a son of Aaron and Lucy (Trask) Jacobs, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Ohio. They were married in the last-named State, and he followed contracting and building in Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties until his death, which occurred in August, 1864, his wife surviving him until 1883. A family of five sons and three daughters were given to them, and all grew to mature years and became the heads of families, and all are now living with the exception of one son and one daughter. A. G. Jacobs is the youngest of this family, and in youth, under his father's instruction, he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until the opening of the war. November 17, 1862, he enlisted in Company B, Sixth Ohio Cavalry, as a private, but was afterward promoted to the position of sergeant and served until discharged in July, 1865, taking part in the engagements at Gettysburg, Wilderness, around Petersburg, Fort Stephenson, Hagerstown, South Mountain, Antietam Creek, Cold Harbor and Appomattox, being in all in sixty-seven engagements, both great and small. After the war he returned to Ashtabula County and engaged in farming and carpentering once more, and in his native State made his home until 1871, when he came West as far as Missouri, but after spending one year in Andrew County he came to Nebraska and entered the land on which he now resides, which then consisted of 320 acres. His buildings are all in good repair, and he has a fine fruit orchard and took eight premiums at the Harvest Home in 1889. In connection with farming he has followed contracting and building since locating here, and has built many houses, barns and other buildings in Clay County. While still a resident of Ohio he was married, December 30, 1855, to Frances M., the daughter of Chauncey Chapman. She was born in New York, but was reared in Portage County, Ohio, and her union with Mr. Jacobs has resulted in the birth of five children: Charles H. (who is married and resides in Kansas), Ida (wife of Stephen Northrop), N. E. and Lulie

A. (wife of J. D. Smith). Another child died in infancy. Mr. Jacobs has been a member of the school board and treasurer of his district for fifteen consecutive years. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is now adjutant of his post, having served in five other positions. He belongs to the Veteran Cavalry Corps and the Farmers' Alliance. He has filled all positions in the Nebraska Cavalry Corps from quartermaster to colonel, which position he now holds.

Edward J. Jenkins. For a period now of twenty-three years, Mr. Jenkins has resided in Clay County, Neb., and during this time he has made for himself an honorable name and secured a comfortable competence with which to pass the remainder of his days, when the mantle of old age is falling about him. He was born in South Wales, October 7, 1830, and being imbued with the idea that the new world offered excellent opportunities for a young man, he emigrated to the United States in 1852, and first located in Carbondale, Pa., but afterward followed coal mining throughout that State until 1867, then moving to Missouri, and in that State was engaged in milling and logging until the spring of 1873. Since that time he has resided in Clay County, Neb., and up to 1880 was engaged in farming, one mile west of Fairfield, and owns considerable business and residence property in town. He is one of the pioneer citizens of the county, is a staunch Republican in his political views, and socially is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the I. O. O. F. He was first married, in 1860, to Miss Mary Johns, a native of Wales, who died in 1864, having borne a family of four children, all of whom are deceased. He married his second and present wife in 1866, her name being Winifred Pugh, a daughter of Rev. Thomas Pugh, a pioneer minister of the Congregational Church, and a resident of Fairfield. Mr. Jenkins and his present wife are the parents of seven children: John P., Evan L., Henry W., George W., Thomas W., Christopher C. and Winifred. Mrs. Jenkins is a member of the Congregational Church, and he believes in the doctrines of that church, although not a member. He is one of Clay County's enterprising and respected citizens, and, as has

been shown, his life from his earliest youth up has not been uselessly or idly spent. His parents, John and Ann (Lewis) Jenkins, were born in Wales.

Davis S. Johnson has carved his way up from a humble station in life to a substantial and assured position, and although he is not what the world would call wealthy, he has gained a comfortable competency, and better than all, the respect of a large circle of friends. He was born in Essex County, N. J., August 27, 1823, being a son of W. D. and Martha (Shackelton) Johnson, the former of whom was born in New Jersey, on December 19, 1799, being a farmer by occupation, as were all his ancestors. His father and grandfather were in the Revolutionary War, one a colonel and the other a captain, under Gen. George Washington. W. D. Johnson was the eldest of five children: W. D., Isaac C., Samuel, Ira and Maria; and in 1819 was married, his wife having been born in Somerset County, N. J., in 1796, their union resulting in the following children: Pernelia (born in January, 1822), U. S. (born in August, 1823), R. S. (born in February, 1824), Theodore (born in April, 1828), Oakley (born February, 1830), Mary J. (born in 1832), John H. (born in January, 1835) and Andrew R. (deceased, was born in 1837). Davis S. Johnson emigrated to Illinois with his parents in 1834, and was among the earliest settlers of Fulton County, where he grew to manhood and received a good common-school education, also learning the carpenter trade in his youth. He was foreman on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, from 1868 to 1879, with headquarters at Chicago, Ill. In 1883 he came to Clay County, Neb., where he purchased a farm which is one of the best for successful agricultural purposes and stock-raising in the county. He has excellent buildings of all kinds, has a fine walnut grove and a timber tract of at least 2,000 trees, besides an excellent young orchard. He was married in 1846, to Miss Esther A. Rapalee, of New York, who had removed with her parents to Illinois, and by her he became the father of ten children, born between 1848 and 1866. Losing his first wife, he married again, and to this union was born one child,

Nora M. He lost his second wife, October 28, 1886. The record of his first family was lost by a cyclone in 1858 at Ellison, Ill., and he could not supply it fully from memory.

Theodore F. Johnson, retired farmer, Harvard, Neb. New Jersey has given to Clay County many estimable citizens, but she has contributed none more highly respected or, for conscientious discharge of duty in every relation of life, more worthy of respect and esteem, than the subject of this sketch. Mr. Johnson was originally from Essex County, N. J., born March 26, 1827, and the son of William D. and Martha (Shackelton) Johnson, mention of whom is made in the sketch of Oakley Johnson. When Theodore F. Johnson was between five and six years of age he accompanied his parents to Fulton County, Ill., and was there reared to the duties of farm life. He was married in that county, June 26, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Martin, a native of Franklin County, Pa., born April 10, 1830, and the daughter of Daniel and Mary (Brent) Martin, natives also of the Keystone State, the father born in 1802 and the mother in 1806. In 1852 Mr. Johnson moved to Warren County, Ill., where he resided for four or five years, engaged in mercantile pursuits, and then removed to Knox County in the same State, where for four years he labored at the carpenter trade. In 1859 he removed to Blue Earth County, Minn., there followed his former trade one year, and then returned to Warren County, Ill., where he resided from the spring of 1860 to 1884. He dealt in grain and merchandise a few years, and in April, 1864, enlisted in the Union army in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Illinois Regiment, with which he served about five months. Returning home he resumed merchandising, and this continued for ten years, after which he dealt in grain for several years in Warren County, Ill. In 1877 he began a grain, lumber and coal business in Harvard, Neb., but did not remove his family to that place, however, until 1884. He continued in the last-named business until 1881, and from that time until 1884 he was engaged in farming. Since the last date he has been looking after his farming interests in the vicinity of Har-

vard, which are somewhat extensive, being the owner of 800 acres of good land in Clay County. This land embraces five farms, all well improved. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had two children: Luella and John W. (both living). In politics Mr. Johnson is a Republican, and is an honorable, upright man.

Oakley Johnson, an old settler and an influential and substantial citizen of Harvard, Neb., was born on February 4, 1830, and is the son of William D. and Martha (Shackelton) Johnson, both natives of New Jersey, the former born on December 19, 1800, and the latter in 1796. The paternal grandfather, Samuel Johnson, was a native of New Jersey, and was of English descent. His wife, however, was a descendant of emigrants from Holland. Mrs. Johnson was the daughter of Col. Richard Shackelton, a native of New Jersey, and a descendant of English ancestors. He took a prominent part in the Revolutionary War. The parents of our subject were married in 1819, and to their union were born eight children, of whom six are now living. Three of the sons, six in all, served in the Union army. They were Theodore F., John H. and Andrew R. (of whom Andrew R. was killed at the battle of Perryville, Ky.). John H. Johnson commanded the ram "Lancaster" of the Mississippi flotilla at the capture of Memphis. When Oakley Johnson was three years of age he went with his parents to Fulton County, Ill., where he attained his growth on a farm. He received a good English education, and at seventeen years of age started out to fight life's battles for himself. After spending a few months in Chicago he went to Sycamore, Ill., where he clerked in a store for nine months. Then, in the spring of 1850, he engaged in merchandising at La Harpe, Hancock County, Ill., continued there one year and a half, and then moved his stock to Ellison, Warren County, Ill., where he remained for four and a half years. In the spring of 1856 he went to Kirkwood, Warren County, Ill., and during the succeeding fourteen years was engaged in the grain and live-stock business at that place, also at Galesburg and Chicago. In the spring of 1870 he went to California, where he resided four years, and then, in 1874, returned to

Chicago, from which place he removed to Harvard, Neb., in 1878. Previous to this, however, in 1875, he had started the grain business at Harvard, which he continued. In 1879 he made a trip to Europe, where he spent several months visiting the British Isles, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and France. Returning to Nebraska, he continued the grain business a short time, and in 1880 turned his attention to the real-estate business. He has purchased and sold a number of farms, and at the present time is the owner of 1,300 acres of good land in Clay County, which embraces nine different farms, the most of it being well improved. On September 20, 1860, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Lissa Wilson, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, born March 4, 1841, and the daughter of Luke Wilson, a native of New York. Her mother was a native of Vermont. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born three children: Frank W., Howard O. and Waldo S., of whom the second, Howard O., died at the age of sixteen months. Mrs. Johnson died on June 7, 1883. She graduated from the Cleveland (Ohio) Ladies' Seminary in June, 1860, and was a woman of excellent accomplishments. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, and one of Clay County's most enterprising men, and one of her most worthy and esteemed citizens.

Levi L. Johnson, farmer and stock-raiser, also grower and manufacturer of sorghum molasses, Inland, Neb. This successful and enterprising tiller of the soil owes his nativity to Marion County, Ohio, where he was born in 1850, and where he spent his early days. At the age of eighteen years he began working for himself, first as a farmer, but from there he went with his father to La Grange County, Ind., where he was married in 1872, to Miss Martha Coney, the daughter of Michael and Ann (Cooper) Coney. After following farming in Indiana for seven years Mr. Johnson emigrated west to Nebraska, settled in Clay County, Inland Township, in 1879, and bought eighty acres of prairie land, which he at once began to improve. He has since been engaged in farming, and in connection makes about 2,500 gallons of molasses per annum. To his marriage have been born five children, four now living:

Charles C. (whose birth occurred in 1873), Schuyler W. (born in 1874), Ella L. (born in 1883), Minnie A. (who was born in 1885 and died in 1889) and Ottie L. Mr. Johnson has been unusually successful since coming to Nebraska, and his property is the result of many days of hard, honest work. He is interested in political matters and votes with the Democratic party. He is deeply interested in educational and religious matters, in fact everything for the advancement of the community, and being one of the early settlers, has witnessed the growth and development of the country. He is secretary of the Farmers' Alliance, and was a member of the school board from 1880 to 1888. He is the son of Levi and Mary (Shrock) Johnson, natives of Ohio, and the latter a daughter of Adam Shrock, of Pennsylvania. The parents were born in Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively, the father in 1820 and the mother in 1827. The former was a minister of the United Brethren Church, and followed his ministerial duties in Ohio for a number of years. His death occurred in Tennessee in October, 1888. He was a Republican in politics, and was called out in the Ohio State military service in 1865. The mother died in Indiana in 1869. Of the eight children born to their union, four are now living: Oscar E. (in Ohio), Orren J. (in Iowa), Levi L. and Lorenzo (living in Illinois). Those deceased were named Mary M., David E., Oliver S. and Simon.

Samuel Jones, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Personal popularity, it can not be denied, results largely from the industry, perseverance and close attention to business which a person displays in the management of any particular branch of trade. And in the case of Mr. Jones this is certainly true, for he has adhered so closely to farming and the stock-raising industry since coming to this State, and helped in so many ways to advance all worthy interests in this community, that he has become one of the prominent and most respected citizens of the township. Born in New Haven County, Conn., in 1826, he is the second of eight children born to the union of Samuel and Rhoda (Munson) Jones. The father's birth occurred in Connecticut in 1791, and he followed

farming on the old homestead in New Haven County. He was married in Connecticut about 1820 and reared a family of eight children: Louisa, Dickerman (died in 1855), Samuel, Russell (deceased), Isaac (living in Connecticut), Catherine (in Connecticut), Betsey, and Robert (deceased). There were five children who died in infancy. The father emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Dane County, where he died in 1867. The mother died in Connecticut in 1869. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father was a Democrat in politics. The paternal grandfather, Pratt Jones, was an aid-de-camp to Gen. Washington in the Revolutionary War, and was but twelve years of age when he enlisted. He served all through the war and afterward settled in New Haven, Conn., where he tilled the soil. He married a very wealthy lady by the name of Dickerman, who owned the township of Hamdon, and the lake was named after her, "Dickerman pond." The original family of Jones came from Wales. Pratt Jones was born in 1762 and died about 1852. Samuel Jones passed his early life in Connecticut, and there, in connection with tilling the soil, he was engaged in the brick-making trade. He left Connecticut in 1848 and went to Michigan, where he remained one year, engaged in brick-making. He then went to Wisconsin, where for four years he was occupied in brick-making and farming, and in 1849 took a trip to Denver, then to Salt Lake City, from there to Carson Valley, and was one of the first to discover gold in that place. Subsequently he went to Marysville, Cal., where he engaged in mining, and from there went to Southern California, where he was interested in cultivating the soil. After this he went to Oregon, engaged in the saw mill business, and later embarked in the lumber business at Salem, Ore. In 1853 he went to South America, where he traveled and enjoyed himself, and later came to New York City, then to his old home in Connecticut, where he visited for some time, and afterward went to Wisconsin. He was married in 1854 to Miss Jane A. Ingalsbe, daughter of Elias and Maria (Smith) Ingalsbe, and grand-daughter of Ezekiel Smith, a native of Connecticut. Her mother was born in

Washington County, N. Y., and her father in the same county. The latter followed farming, and emigrated to Wisconsin about 1840, where he died about 1867. The mother is still living, is about eighty years of age, and makes her home in Clay County, Neb. The Ingalsbes are of English descent and the Smiths of Scotch. Mr. Jones and family resided in Wisconsin from 1854 to 1873, but followed his former trade in Shelbyville, Shelby County, Mo., in 1864. In 1873 he emigrated to Clay County, Neb., and in June moved on the place where he now lives and there homesteaded eighty acres of land. He is now the owner of 240 acres in the home tract. Nine children were born to his marriage, six of whom are now living: Lillie H. (born in 1855, married, in April, 1876, Washington Klepper, by whom she had one child, now thirteen years old; after being divorced, she was married November 25, 1887, to Peter Powers; their two children are Lee, aged two years, and Jay, three months old), Fred D. (was married in Wisconsin, August 9, 1881, to Mary Jane Green, of English descent, born in Baraboo, Wis., in 1857; he died April 7, 1888, leaving four children: Burr, aged seven; Maud, aged five; Blanch, aged three, and Jessie, one year old), Mary L. (now Mrs. Hollister, born in 1859, has five children: Walter, aged ten; Ettie, aged eight; Earl, five; Cora, three, and Mabel, two years old, all living in Inland, Clay County, Neb.), Jennie M. (now Mrs. Brown, was born in 1863, and has one child, Nora, aged four years), Levi (born in 1865, was married February 25, 1890), Hattie (now Mrs. Moody, of South Omaha, born in 1869, has one child, Blanch, two years old), Jessie (now Mrs. Green, living in Fremont, was born in 1871), Willie (died April 30, 1876, aged three years). Mr. Jones is a Democrat in politics, and an excellent citizen.

Thomas J. Kemp, Spring Ranche, Neb. Clay County is indeed fortunate in having among her foreign-born element men whose industry, strict attention to business, economy and perseverance have produced such substantial results in the different affairs with which they have connected themselves. Mr. Kemp belongs to this class, for, orig-

inally from England, his location in this county dates from 1871. He was born in Kent County in 1852, and is the eldest son born to the union of Thomas and Ann (Castle) Kemp, natives also of England. The father was a shoemaker by trade, was a member of the Prince of Orange Society, and also a member of the Episcopal Church. Thomas J. Kemp, the subject of this sketch, received a high school education in his native country, and there later in life learned the grocer's trade. He came to the United States in 1871, landed at Portland, Me., and came direct to Lincoln, Neb., and to Adams County of that State in May, 1871. He homesteaded government land two miles west of Hastings, improved the same, and farmed in Adams County nine years. He was married in 1876 to Miss Bertha Purdy, the daughter of James and Mary A. (Kirkhan) Purdy, both natives of England, and the fruits of this union have been five children: Alfred, Bertha, Ralph, Eunice and Oakley. Mr. Kemp came to Spring Ranche in 1879, engaged in general merchandising, also kept the postoffice, and followed this business six or seven years, since which time he has been engaged on the railroad. He was among the first settlers of Adams County, Neb., was enrolled on the first list of voters, assisted in electing the first set of county officers, and has seen the full development of these western counties of Nebraska. He has ever taken an active part in politics, and votes with the Republican party. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and is deeply interested in religious and educational matters.

William Kewley, farmer and stock raiser, Ong, Neb. Among the foreign-born elements of Clay County, Neb., none are more highly respected or esteemed than the subject of this sketch, who was born on the Isle of Man on December 26, 1832. His parents, Thomas and Isabella (Tear) Kewley, were both natives of the Isle of Man also, and the father was a successful tiller of the soil. Both parents received their final summons there. William Kewley, when but fourteen years of age, emigrated to the United States with an aunt, and in 1846 located at Rochester, N. Y. He there learned the shoemaker's trade, worked at the same in that city

for four years, and then returned to the land of his nativity. Two years later he returned to the States, via New Orleans, and spent the winter of 1852 in that city. From that time up to the breaking out of the war he resided in the South for five winters, and in Peoria and Henry Counties, Ill., the remainder of the time. Enlisting in 1861 in the Seventeenth Illinois Infantry for three years, he was discharged in the spring of 1863 for disability. After recovering he re-enlisted (spring of 1864) in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, Company K, and was a non-commissioned officer, serving until the close of the war, being discharged in the summer of 1865. While in the Seventeenth Infantry he participated in the following battles: Fredericktown, Belmont, Fort Henry, Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Burnsville and numerous skirmishes. After being discharged he returned to Galva, Henry County, Ill., where he cultivated the soil for a number of years. He then sold out, and in the spring of 1887 moved to Nebraska, where he now has 160 acres of land. He has everything comfortable about his place, and all the modern conveniences. He was married in Bureau County, Ill., April 30, 1866, to Miss Marion Winger, a native of Switzerland, but reared and educated in Henry County, Ill., and the daughter of Hiram and Elizabeth Winger. Mr. and Mrs. Kewley have reared two children, one a nephew of Mr. Kewley's, and the other a nephew of his wife. Mrs. Kewley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially Mr. Kewley is a member of the I. O. O. F., and has filled the chairs in the subordinate lodge. He is a member of the Encampment.

Joseph R. Kidd has been familiar with the duties of farm labor from his earliest youth, and he is now considered one of the successful agriculturists and stock-raisers of Clay County, Neb. He was born in Morgan County, Ohio, January 3, 1843, and is a son of Peter and Mary Ann (Gray) Kidd, being the second of their nine children, all of whom are living with the exception of one daughter, and are the heads of families. Joseph R. Kidd was reared in his native county and obtained a fair knowledge of books in the common schools near his home. In the fall of 1863 he en-

listed in the Ninth Ohio Cavalry and served until he received his discharge, June 10, 1865, having participated in a number of hard charges and skirmishes, but shortly after was stricken with typhoid fever and was unable to do any work for about two years. Upon his recovery he was engaged in clerking for about two years, but in 1867 removed to Washington County, Iowa, and was there occupied in contracting and building for about five years. In 1872 he removed to Nebraska, and the following year settled in Clay County, where he entered a farm under the homestead law, in Sheridan Township, on which he resided until 1877, he being one of the first settlers of that region. He next purchased property in Edgar, moved there, and engaged in the mercantile business, which occupation continued to receive his attention until 1883, but he has since devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising in which he is quite successful. His farm comprises 160 acres of arable land, all of which is in a good state of cultivation, his buildings are in thorough repair and he has a fine, young, bearing orchard of about 200 trees. He has always supported the Republican party, and in 1883 was nominated and elected sheriff of Clay County, upon which he moved to Clay Center, serving, by re-election, two consecutive years. He has since filled several other positions of trust, such as assessor, and has always proved an excellent officer. He was married in Morgan County, Ohio, February 21, 1867, to Miss Josephine Young, a daughter of William Young, of Unionville, Ohio, but his wife died in Clay Center, Neb., April 14, 1888, leaving besides her husband, a family of seven children to mourn her loss: Anna Belle (wife of Dr. Mell Stone, of Washington Township), Louie, Mattie, Albert, Loren, Fred and Hattie. On February 13, 1889, Mr. Kidd was married, in Hastings, Neb., to Miss Ella Conner, who was born, reared and educated in Grundy County, Ill., a portion of her education being also received in St. Joseph, Mo. Her father, J. W. Conner, resides in Clay Center, Neb. Mr. Kidd by his last union has one child, Mary Blanche. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the G. A. R., and also the Farmers' Alliance.

John A. Kidd is a prosperous tiller of the soil of Logan Township, Clay County, Neb., and is a native of Morgan County, Ohio, his birth occurring on November 12, 1853, he being a son of Peter and Mary Ann (Gray) Kidd, who were also born in the "Buckeye State." The father was engaged in farming all his life and taught his sons the details of this calling, and this has since proved their chief occupation. He died in the summer of 1877, his wife still surviving him, and she is at present residing on the old homestead. Their family consisted of six sons and three daughters, all of whom are living but one sister. John A. Kidd received a high-school education in his youth, and after reaching a proper age began teaching the "young idea," an occupation he continued for about four years, continuing this with alternately attending school until the spring of 1878, when he came to Nebraska, and located in Clay County, where he purchased land. He taught school the three following winters and during the summer months tilled the soil, but in 1880 settled permanently on his present farm which comprises a tract of eighty acres in a fine state of cultivation. He has a good, new frame residence, excellent out-buildings, and a fine young fruit orchard. For the last seven years he has been dealing in stock, and ships from thirty to fifty car loads annually. He has been very successful, considering the fact that he began for himself with little or no means to start on, and his present calling seems to be one for which he has a natural aptitude. He was married in Chillicothe, Ohio, September 14, 1876, to Miss Maggie Wheeland, a native of Ross County, Ohio, she being a daughter of Samuel Wheeland. She was educated in Chillicothe and her union with Mr. Kidd has resulted in the birth of four children: Russell M., Joseph R., Paul C. and Mabel F. The eldest child died April 25, 1887, at the age of seven years and eight months.

Stephen King, retired farmer, Harvard, Neb. This honored citizen of Harvard, Neb., was born in Bracken County, Ky., March 29, 1823, and was the son of William B. and Anna R. (Greening) King, both of whom were born in Fauquier County, Va., or in Powell's Valley, the former born

April 23, 1783. When a young man William B. King went to East Tennessee and was there married to Miss Greening, after which he and wife removed to Fayette County, Ky. From there they removed to Clark County, Ky., thence in 1815 to Bracken County, Ky., and in 1830 to Sangamon County, Ill., where both spent the remainder of their days. They were the parents of twelve children: Thomas A., Reuben, Elizabeth, James M., William G., Henry J., Sarah, Stephen, Hester F., Anna R., Fielding A. and John F. Of these James M., Henry J., Stephen, Fielding A. and John F. are living. The first four were born in Clark County, Ky., the next seven in Bracken County, Ky., and the youngest in Sangamon County, Ill. The father of these children died October 19, 1863, and the mother died March 27, 1873. The father of the subject of this sketch was the son of William and Betsey King, both natives of the Old Dominion. The former served in the Revolutionary War under Gen. George Washington, and his father was a native of England. Our subject's maternal grandparents, Reuben and Sarah Greening, were both natives of Virginia. Stephen King was seven years of age when his parents located in Sangamon County, Ill., and there he spent his boyhood, attending the district school in winter and laboring upon the farm in summer. In early life he took the vocation of a teacher and followed this in Sangamon County for seven years. February 15, 1855, he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, widow of John Smith, and the daughter of Anthony and Nancy A. (Dean) Hendrix. Mr. Hendrix was born in Fleming County, Ky., December 19, 1789, and his wife was a native of Clark County, Ky. They were the parents of eleven children: Susan, George, Rebecca, Amy, Samuel W., Sally A., Elizabeth, Nancy A., Mary, Eliza J. and John, of whom Rebecca, Elizabeth, Nancy A., Mary and John are living. The first seven were born in Kentucky and the last four in Clear Lake Township, Sangamon County, Ill. The father and mother of these children died in Sangamon County, Ill. After his marriage Mr. King followed agricultural pursuits in Sangamon County, Ill., until 1885, when

he moved to Clay County, Neb., and located in Harvard where they have since lived a retired life. Mr. King is the owner of 240 acres of land near Harvard, and he spends much of his time attending its management. By his marriage he became the father of seven children: John Albert (born July 8, 1856, and died February 15, 1866), Mary Ellen (born April 25, 1858, and died April 18, 1888), George L. (born October 19, 1860), Charles H. (born March 25, 1862), William A. (born May 26, 1864), Katie (born February 8, 1866) and Eddie F. (born January 23, 1869). By her former marriage Mrs. King had three daughters: Susan, Alice and Jennie, all of whom are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Christian Church, and in politics the former affiliates with the Republican party. He and wife are much esteemed citizens of the community.

George W. King, another of the successful farmers of Eldorado Township, has been identified with the material interests of Clay County since 1874, at which time he came to this county and homesteaded the farm he now owns, which he has improved with a nice comfortable residence, barns, outbuildings, fences, etc., and also with fruits of all kinds. He has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, not having had a total failure in crops since his arrival, and is well pleased to make this his permanent home. He is devoting considerable attention to stock-raising and believes in propagating good farm stock, and to this end is breeding good horses and cattle and Berkshire hogs. He was born in Orange County, Va., in 1830, the third child of John and Isabella (Atkins) King, both natives of Virginia. The father received a good common school education and grew to maturity in his native State. He was a shoemaker by occupation. He married at the age of nineteen years, and the fruits of his union were twelve children, seven of whom are still living: John (living in Vinton County, Ohio), William (deceased), George W. (the subject of this sketch), Frances (now Mrs. Charles Moss, of Cincinnati, Ohio), Isabella (deceased), Martha (now Mrs. Theo. Seeds, of Hilliards, Ohio), Margaret (deceased), Nancy J. (now Mrs. Robert Mackey),

Matilda (now Mrs. B. Sheid), A. J. (deceased), Charles (deceased), and Joseph (living in Vinton County, Ohio). The father removed to Ohio in 1836, and spent the rest of his life in that State, dying in 1867, at the age of sixty years. The mother died in 1872. Both she and husband were worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Socially, the father was a Free Mason, and politically, a Democrat. The subject of this sketch spent his school days in Ohio, and learned the shoemaker's trade. At the age of nineteen years he began life for himself by engaging in farming. In September, 1853, he was married to Miss Margaret J. Campbell, daughter of John and Louisa (Hainsbrough) Campbell, both natives of Virginia. He had one son who was educated at Milton College, Wisconsin, and is now a book publisher of Springfield, Mass. In the fall of 1864 he went into the United States service, first in the National Guards in Ohio, and later in the United States Guards, Capt. Waddal commander, and served sixty-two days in this capacity. He removed from Ohio to Wisconsin in 1866, and worked at shoemaking and carpentering for about seven or eight years, and then came to Nebraska, where he has since made his home. He is an active Republican in politics, and often serves as delegate to conventions. He is a member of Pacific Lodge No. 58 (Wis.), I. O. O. F.

Joseph Kintner, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. Since starting in life for himself Mr. Kintner has, to some extent, followed cabinet-making and carpentering, but his principal attention has been given to agricultural pursuits, including the raising of stock. In these occupations he has risen to more than ordinary prominence. He is the owner of 160 acres of land, and is in the truest sense of the term a self-made man, for from a low beginning he has by energy, economy and correct business habits secured a good competency. He was born in Middle Smithfield, Pa., July 9, 1821, and is the seventh in a family of ten children of Rodolvus and Margaret (Fellinzer) Kintner, the father a native of Burke County, Pa., born in 1762, and the mother of Monroe County, Pa., born in 1795. Their children are named

as follows: Samuel, George, Peter, Philip, Daniel, Jonas, Michael, Joseph, Rudolph, Conrad, Henry, Delilia, Elizabeth and Mary. Joseph Kintner received but a limited education, for at the age of seventeen years he was left without a father and was obliged to start out in life for himself. He selected the trade of a cabinet-maker, and apprenticed himself to William Clark for three years. After this he worked at his trade at different places, and being a natural mechanic, was soon familiar with the carpenter trade, which he carried on in connection with the cabinet-maker's trade. He remained in his native State until the breaking out of the late war, when he enlisted in the engineer department, working at the carpenter trade in building fortifications, but about the middle of the war he was pressed into the regular service. He was under Gen. Thomas at Nashville, Tenn., but during service he escaped actual battles. When the war was over, in 1865, he returned to Middle Smithfield, Pa., where he resumed his trade as carpenter. In 1866 he immigrated to Ogle County, Ill., still following his trade, and in the spring of 1873 they moved to this county, taking a homestead, on which he now resides. In March, 1847, he was married to Miss Mary Vliet, daughter of Abraham and Elsie (Oeres) Vliet, and a native of Pennsylvania, born December 22, 1827. Her father was born in 1787, and the mother in New Jersey, in 1801. To Mr. and Mrs. Kintner were born nine children: Margaret (wife of Daniel H. Chase), Eleanor (who died at the age of fourteen), George (married Miss Emily Loomis), Rebecca (wife of Augustus T. Sundwell), Wilbur F. (married Miss Lizzie Eggleston), Garret (now deceased), Alice (died in infancy), Albina (wife of William McGaffey) and David (who is single). Mr. Kintner is a Republican in politics, and, not aspiring to political honors, has refused several good offices. He and wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a class-leader, superintendent of Sunday-school and steward. He is a member of the Good Temp lar Lodge at Glenville, and holds the office of chaplain in the same. By his own energy and that of his faithful wife, who, by the way, is a

staunch Prohibitionist, he has accumulated quite a handsome property. Mr. Kintner was the first post master in Glenville, under Grant's administration, in 1874, and filled that position in a highly satisfactory manner.

Thomas W. Kirkpatrick was born in Woodford County, Ill., October 29, 1840, being a son of Samuel and Anna (Hougham) Kirkpatrick, both of whom were born in Ohio, settling shortly after their marriage in Woodford County, Ill., of which they were among the pioneers. They both passed from life there, the former in 1874, and the latter in 1872. Thomas W. Kirkpatrick is the eldest of three sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and became the heads of families, and are now residing in McLean County, Ill., with the exception of our subject, and in Woodford County he grew to manhood. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Ninety-fourth Illinois Infantry as sergeant, but at the end of three months he was promoted to flag-bearer, and carried the grand old "stars and stripes" for two years and nine months. He was in the fight at Prairie Grove, siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Fort Morgan and Spanish Fort, and made several trips to the Gulf of Mexico with his regiment. In August, 1865, he was discharged at Springfield, Ill., and returned to Woodford County, where he was married on April 11, 1867, to Miss Amanda McKee, a daughter of William McKee. She was born, reared and educated in Woodford County, and after residing there for several years after their marriage, they moved to McLean County, where they were engaged in farming until 1883, then moving to Normal, Ill., and in March, 1885, to Nebraska. Their first year was spent in Fairfield, after which they purchased their present farm of 160 acres, all excellent tillable land. He has a good residence, barn, grove and a young orchard just commencing to bear, and is already well known throughout the county as a successful tiller of the soil. He and his wife are the parents of three children: Emma Alice (wife of George McClure, who is cashier of a bank in Gibson City, Ill.), Ada Estella, aged 16, and Loren Jesse, aged 13. Mr. and Mrs. K. are members of the Christian Church at Edgar, and he is a Pro-

hibitionist in politics, although formerly a Republican.

John N. Kirkpatrick has been a resident of Clay County, Neb., for the past sixteen years, and his example of industry and earnest and sincere endeavor to succeed in life is well worthy of imitation. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., February 15, 1830, and is a son of George and Jemima (Newman) Kirkpatrick, who were born in the "Buckeye State," and after residing in Indiana for some time, moved to Will County, Ill., in 1836, and there John N. was reared to manhood, receiving a good common-school education. In 1854 he removed to Fayette County, Iowa, where he followed the occupation of farming, and while there the Civil War broke out. In 1862 he left the plow to take up arms in defense of his country, and became a member of Company F, Thirty-eighth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served as a private until the close of the war, returning home with the consciousness of having served his country faithfully and well. He was a participant in the siege of Vicksburg, Fort Morgan and Fort Blakely, besides numerous skirmishes, and after his return to Iowa he settled in Madison County, but removed, in the month of April, 1873, to Nebraska, taking up a homestead claim of 160 acres in Clay County, and has since purchased an adjoining eighty acres, his farm now comprising 240 acres of fine land. His marriage to Miss Albina Squeirs, a native of Vermont, took place on December 25, 1856, and by her he has a family of six children: Grace (wife of Albert Elden), John S., Hardy, Chester, Bina and Lester. Mr. Kirkpatrick was originally a Republican in his political views, but is now a Prohibitionist, and he and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church, and are well known and highly esteemed citizens.

George Krell, farmer and stock-raiser, Spring Rancho, Neb. The entire life of Mr. Krell has been one without any material change from the ordinary pursuits of farm life, with the exception of the time spent in the army. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, in 1840, and is the son of George Krell, who was a native of Alsace, France. The father came to this country about 1830, settled in

Columbus, Ohio, and there followed the undertaker's business for many years. He died in that city in 1857, and was a worthy member of the Lutheran Church. George Krell, Jr., received a good practical education in the schools of Columbus, Ohio, and began life for himself at about seventeen years of age. In January, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Sixteenth Regiment United States Infantry, and took a prominent part in the following battles: Shiloh, Stone River and Chickamanga, where he was taken prisoner. He was confined in several of the Southern prisons, including about seven months in Andersonville, and two weeks in Millen, Ga. He was discharged at Lookout Mountain, Tenn., on April 12, 1865. At the close of the war Mr. Krell engaged in farming in Iowa, and in 1866 was united in marriage to Miss Laura A. Stephenson, daughter of Frank and Julia (Larabee) Stephenson, and to this union were born six children: Lena, Fred, George, Letha, Maud and Vernie. Mr. Krell came to Clay County, Neb., in 1871, and now has a fine farm in that county. He is one of the first settlers and has seen the full development of the country. He has been successful financially since coming here, intends making this State his permanent home, and is one of the prominent citizens of the county. He has made a success of his efforts at fruit-raising. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, the G. A. R., and is a worthy member of the Presbyterian Church.

W. Lambie. Among the agriculturists and stockmen, so many of whom are mentioned in these pages, Mr. Lambie deserves prominent mention, for he has been closely identified with both these enterprises in Clay County, Neb., since the spring of 1878. He was born in Scotland in 1841, and is the youngest child born to W. and Jeanette (Reed) Lambie, who were born in the parish of Milton, Scotland. The father was a farmer by occupation, and he and wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his school days in his native land, and at the early age of fifteen years began life for himself as a farmer and lumberman in the State of Wisconsin, his parents having come to the United States in 1856 and settled in that State.

He was married in 1866 to Miss Hattie A. White, a daughter of Harris and Mary (St. Clair) White, both of whom were born in the State of New York, and his union with this lady resulted in the birth of four children: Frank, Ida, Willie and Grace. Since the spring of 1878 Mr. Lambie has resided in Clay County, Neb., and has proved himself to be one of its able and successful agriculturists. His present farm is well improved, and his efforts at fruit-raising have proved a decided success. He has a pleasant home for his family, and he and his estimable wife are excellent neighbors and citizens. He gives liberally of his means to worthy enterprises, and is an earnest member of the Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Lanham, owner of a brick yard, Harvard, Neb. Among the important industries of any civilized community is that of brick-making. Mr. Lanham has been engaged in this enterprise at Harvard since 1884, and has made a success of the same. He was born in the town of Yeovil, County of Somerset, England, June 21, 1850, and was the son of William and Harriet (Durham) Lanham, both of whom died in England. They were the parents of seventeen children, of whom Thomas was the sixteenth, and four of whom, three sons and a daughter, came to America. Only five are now living. Thomas Lanham was reared in his native country, being reared chiefly to the brick-making business, and was married in London, England, at the age of nineteen, or on April 5, 1870, to Miss Jane Hann, who was also born in Yeovil, England. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Lanham emigrated to the United States, settled first at Brownville, Nemaha County, Neb., and there resided two years, being engaged in different occupations. In the fall of 1872 he took an eighty-acre farm in Saline, Neb., and located on the same in the spring of 1873, proving up, after which, in 1875, he sold it. From there he removed to Crete, Neb., but shortly afterward, for health purposes, he returned with his family to England where he resided three years. During that time he was employed in the capacity of policeman. In the spring of 1879 he again came to the United States, located in Crete, Neb., and there made his home until

1884, employed at the manufacturing of bricks, when he removed to Harvard and there continued his former pursuit. He has owned and operated a brick yard there ever since, but in connection has given considerable attention to feeding cattle. To his marriage have been born nine children: Albert Thomas, Clara, Laura, May, Frank, Lillie, Eddie, Ada and Hilda. Of these Clara, May and Lillie are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lanham are members of the Episcopal Church, and the former is a member of the Masonic fraternity, a prosperous man and a good citizen. In politics he is a Republican.

Albert M. Lathrop, farmer, fruit-grower, and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Every community is certain to have among her citizens a few men of recognized influence and ability, who by their systematic and careful, thorough manner of work, attain to a success which is justly deserved. Among this class is Mr. Lathrop, a man esteemed as a prominent and substantial, as well as progressive farmer of Clay County. He owes his nativity to New London, Conn., where his birth occurred in 1841, and is the son of Jason and Susan (Peckham) Lathrop, and the grandson of Dixwell and Mahala (Phillips) Lathrop. Jason Lathrop was born in Griswold, Conn., in 1812, began farming at an early day, and in 1840 was married to Miss Peckham, who bore him eight children: Albert M., George (living on the home place in Connecticut), Henry (engaged in farming in Indiana), Sarah (now Mrs. Lamb, of New London, Conn.), Helen (now Mrs. Congdon, of Griswold, Conn.), Lucy (at home), Jason (a farmer of Connecticut) and Charles (engaged in the hotel business in Kansas). The parents of these children are still living and are residents of Griswold, Conn. Both are members of the Baptist Church. The father is a Democrat in his political views and is a public-spirited citizen. The maternal grandfather, Rowland Peckham, was a native of Newport, R. I., and died in Connecticut in 1881. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. Albert M. Lathrop was reared on the old home place in Griswold, New London County, Conn., and was favored with such educational advantages as the district schools afforded. When about twenty-one years of age he enlisted in Company E,

Eighteenth Connecticut Infantry, under Col. William G. Ely, and participated in the following battles: Winchester, on June 13 and 14, 1863; Summit's Point, June 15, 1863; New Market, May 15, 1864; Piedmont, June 5, 1864; Lynchburg, June 18, 1864; Cedar Creek, August 12, 1864; Berryville, September 3, 1864; Harrisonburg, June 3, 1864; Lexington, June 11, 1864; Buchanan, June 14, 1864, and several others. He was color-corporal, and marched over 300 miles on Hunter's raid, barefooted. He received his discharge at Harper's Ferry in June, 1865, and returned to his home, satisfied that notwithstanding the many hardships he had undergone he had served his country faithfully and well. He afterward taught school for seven years, and in 1868 selected for his companion in life Miss Anna Lawton, daughter of Thomas and Rowena (Campbell) Lawton, all of English descent. To this marriage were born six children, three now living: Edith, Susie E. and Chelsea. Those deceased were named Elmer L. (whose death occurred in 1869), Walter (who died in 1881 at the age of three years) and Birdsey (who died in infancy in 1881. In 1872 Mr. Lathrop emigrated to Nebraska, settled in Clay County, Inland Township, and took up 160 acres of land before any one had thought of Hastings. He began improving the same, and his residence, barns and outbuildings, and in fact all necessary conveniences, indicate the quality of farmer that he is. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church at Inland, Clay County, and he is the superintendent of the Sunday-school at that place. He is interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches, and in fact all things for the growth and improvement of the county. He has been a Republican in his political views, and is now interested in the Prohibition party. He has been continuously in office as justice of the peace, since 1874, or for sixteen years, receiving the votes of all political parties; besides he has been a member of the election board since the organization of the precinct and township, and is naturally inclined to support all movements for moral and political reform. Mr. Lathrop is president of the Farmers' Alliance, belonging to the Glenville G. A. R.

John Lenzen, grain dealer of Fairfield, Neb., is a man who, through his fair, honest and satisfactory manner of doing business has gained a large patronage, and has become one of the well known and highly esteemed citizens of the community in which he resides. He was born in Prussia, Germany, on April 8, 1843, and is a son of Bernard and Helena (Mayers) Lenzen, who were also born in that country. The family removed to the United States and became subjects of "Uncle Sam" in 1852, and located on a farm in McHenry County, Ill., where John was reared to manhood. His knowledge of the world was only such as could be gained on his father's farm, and this occupation continued to receive his attention for twenty-six years, he being also engaged in grain dealing in McHenry County. In May, 1877, he came to Fairfield, Neb., where he has followed the grain business ever since, with the exception of two years which were spent in the far West, where he was occupied in cattle dealing. Mr. Lenzen is an excellent example of the successful business men of the West, and is pushing and progressive in his views, and is honest and upright in all his dealings with the public. He has met with financial reverses at different times, but with the energy which has ever characterized his efforts he has surmounted all difficulties and has now a very handsome competency, owning 480 acres of valuable farming land in Clay County, and some valuable town property in Fairfield. He has an excellent elevator in the town, also one at Deweese and Keene, Neb., and on an average ships 1,200 car loads of grain per year. He was married on May 15, 1862, to Miss Adelina King, a native of Westphalen, Germany, who died in 1872, leaving three children: Bernard (manager of the elevator at Keene), John A. (filling the same position at Deweese) and Margaret. October 9, 1874, Mr. Lenzen married Mrs. Mary (Freund), a native of Prussia, and the following are their children: Emma, Lena and Joseph. Mr. Lenzen is a Democrat, and the family attend the Catholic Church.

Charles L. Lewis, cashier of the Citizens' Bank, Fairfield, Neb. In looking over a comparative statement of the institutions of a financial

character doing business in this city, we find them in comparison with the same class of organizations elsewhere, solvent, prosperous and useful in the highest degree. The Citizens' Bank adds no little to this and is one of the best and most substantial of its kind in the State. Mr. Lewis, the efficient cashier, is a native of Winchester, Scott County, Ill., where he was born on January 26, 1858, and is the son of Ephriam and Sarah J. (Martin) Lewis, both natives of the Old Dominion. Charles L. Lewis removed with his parents to Henry County, Iowa, in 1868, and thence eight years later to Union County, where the parents are residing at the present time. His early life was spent in agricultural pursuits, and he received a good English education, taking an academic course and preparing himself for teaching. This profession he pursued successfully for about four years, in Iowa, and in August, 1881, he came to Fairfield, where he accepted a clerical position with the Fairfield Exchange Bank. Later he was made cashier of the same, and upon the organization of the Citizens' Bank, in August, 1886, he was elected as its cashier, which position he has since filled in a faithful and highly satisfactory manner. November 26, 1884, he was united in marriage to Miss Florence A. Hoskins, of Union County, Iowa, and the fruits of their union have been two children: Lela V. and Ruby C. Mr. Lewis is a staunch Republican in politics, and was elected mayor of the city at the spring election of 1890. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen Fraternity, and is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Capt. G. W. Linbocker was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., in May, 1830, and while still quite young removed with his parents to Erie County, Pa., and afterward to Jennings County, Ind., where, at the age of fifteen years, he enlisted in the Mexican War, in 1846, serving until the close of that war. In 1854 he moved to Iowa, and here he first engaged in the newspaper business, publishing the Columbus City Enterprise. Here he married in 1857 Miss H. A. Gray, who has been his life-long companion. In 1859 he removed to Boscobel, Wis., and began the publication of the Boscobel Democrat, which he continued

until 1869, when he was appointed United States assistant census marshal for his assembly district. In April, 1861, he organized a company of infantry for the Civil War, was elected captain, and served as such until discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, in August, 1862. He was afterward commissioned in the Veteran Reserve Corps, where he served until after the close of the war. In 1878 he moved his family, consisting of wife and three daughters, to Harvard, Neb., and began the publication of the Clay County Journal, which he has since successfully continued. In 1885 he served a term as sergeant-at-arms in the State Senate, and in 1887 was elected mayor of Harvard, and served in that capacity for one year. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, having been raised a Master Mason in Beautiful Grove Lodge No. —, at Boscobel, Wis., in 1860, where he served as worshipful master for five years; he was also a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge of the same place, in which he held all the principal offices. He is now a member of Harvard Lodge No. 44, A. F. & A. M., of Richardson Post No. 60, G. A. R., and is a Republican by nature and practice.

Charles A. Linstrum, merchant tailor, Sutton, Neb. Among the most skilled and reliable merchant tailors of this city must be classed Mr. Charles A. Linstrum. As a practical tailor of the highest skill Mr. Linstrum has no superior in this city, and he has no hesitancy in guaranteeing most perfect fits in garments in all cases. He was born in Sweden, May 6, 1860, and is the son of C. F. and Huldah Linstrum, natives, also, of Sweden, where the mother died in 1882. The father came to the United States, and is now residing in Iowa. Charles A. Linstrum came with his father to the States when nine years of age, and received his education in the schools of Keokuk, Iowa. In 1874 he began learning the tailor's trade in Keokuk, Iowa, in the shop of Fraser Brothers, and for ten years worked as a journeyman tailor. In 1884 he began the merchant-tailoring business at the above-mentioned place, under the firm name of Fraser & Linstrum, and continued this for two and a half years, when the firm dissolved and Mr. Lin-

strum came to Sutton, Neb. Here he has since continued, and has a complete line of merchant-tailoring stock. His patronage is not confined to Sutton, but takes in a large scope of country. None but experienced hands are kept, and no garments are allowed to leave the store which are not carefully inspected and entirely satisfactory to the customer. As a consequence this house has received a high popularity, not only in this immediate section, but from patrons at a distance. He was married in 1887 to Miss Emma Johnson, a native of Sweden, born in 1864, and to this union was born one child, Edna C. In his political views Mr. Linstrom is an independent Republican, and socially is a member of the K. of P., Sutton Lodge No. 75, and the A. O. U. W., No. 156. He has always been thrown upon his own resources, and through his energy has succeeded, and is doing a prosperous business.

Hugh B. Louden, a successful agriculturist of Clay County, Neb., is of Scotch ancestry, although his birth occurred in County Antrim, Ireland, October 21, 1850. His parents, Daniel and Margaret (Beard) Louden, were born in Scotland. Hugh B. spent his youth and early manhood in his native county, and there learned the details of farm-work of his father, an occupation which continued to receive his attention after starting out in life for himself. In 1871 he came to the United States and located in Livingston County, N. Y., but three years later came west as far as Kankakee County, Ill., and in March, 1877, settled on an eighty-acre tract of land in Clay County, Neb. Three years later he purchased eighty acres more, and here he has resided up to the present time, his farm being one of the most fertile and best kept in the county. His marriage to Miss Clara Hager, a native of Appanoose County, Iowa, born August 11, 1864, was consummated January 5, 1882, she being a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Croft) Hager. Mr. and Mrs. Louden have an interesting family of five children: Margaret B., Carl E., Bertha M., Gertrude and James N. Mr. Louden has always been a Republican in politics and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, believing firmly in the principles of that organization. He is a Master Mason and

a member of the K. of P. He has held several local offices of trust, being constable of his district, and is considered by all a man of excellent principles and a useful citizen.

Rev. J. L. Lower, a Presbyterian minister, was born in Williamsburg, Pa., July 14, 1829, and attended the common schools of his native State, after which he entered college, the means for paying his tuition and board being obtained by teaching music. He graduated from the Princeton (N. J.) Theological Seminary April 26, 1859, and began his ministerial labors in Ohio and Indiana, and later in Nebraska. On August 24, 1861, he was married to Miss Susan T. Chase, a daughter of William Chase, of Massachusetts. His wife was born March 17, 1830, and graduated from Gorham Female Seminary, at Gorham, Me., in 1856, and she and Mr. Lower became the parents of five children: Maggie A. (born in 1862 and died in 1881), Wallace B. (born in 1864 and died in 1868), Ralph L. (born July 5, 1866, and is residing in Denver, Colo.), Albert P. (born May 14, 1868) and William H. (born February 15, 1871). On coming to Clay County, Neb., Mr. Lower settled on a farm of eighty acres in Harvard Township, in 1887, purchasing his land from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, and this place he set immediately to work to improve. In 1883 he was elected by the board of directors of the Presbyterian College at Hastings as financial secretary of that institution, and this position he held one year. His first pastoral charge was held in Hamilton County, and for about five years he preached the Gospel at Harvard, Clay County. In 1887 he went to Colorado and located a claim at Otis, and at the same time took charge of a church at Akron, where he now resides. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, is interested in all things for the improvement and development of the county, and is a man whom all respect and esteem, for he is an earnest follower of the Golden Rule. His son, Albert P. Lower, is residing on his father's farm in Harvard Township, and here he is quite extensively engaged in the raising of horses and hogs, the latter being of the Poland-China breed. After he had attended the schools of Harvard for a number of years he

entered the Presbyterian College at Hastings, which institution he attended one year. He has since been devoting his energies to his calling, and is meeting with marked success in his business ventures. Like his father, he is thoroughly public-spirited and a Prohibitionist in his political views. He also belongs to the A. O. U. W.

Horace G. Lyon, publisher and proprietor of the Edgar Times, of Edgar, Neb., was born in Piercesville, Van Buren County, Iowa, December 27, 1858, being the youngest of five children born to John and Sarah (Canfield) Lyon, natives of the State of New York. Horace G. received excellent advantages for acquiring an education and besides attending Howe's Academy at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, for some time, he took a course in the Missouri State Normal School at Kirksville, Mo., which institution he attended three years. He next entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, and after a one-year's course graduated in scientific and business courses, being then admirably fitted for the profession of teaching. After returning to his native State from Ohio, he accepted the position of principal of the Quaker Academy in Dallas County, Iowa, and afterward accepted the same position in the public schools of Van Meter, continuing here until 1883, when he came to Clay County, Neb., and started a private normal school, consisting of a three-year's course. Some time later he purchased the Times of Kautzman & Barrington and has since continued to publish the journal with the greatest success, it being considered one of the ablest edited and best paying papers in this section of the country. Mr. Lyon has proved a capable newspaper man, and his progressive ideas are reflected in every corner of his paper and in its management. During his work here he has accumulated considerable property and has built up his paper to its present admirable proportions. He was a very successful educator and reluctantly abandoned that calling. He is a Republican in his political views and socially is a member of the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A. He and wife, whom he married in 1882, and whose maiden name was Neva Semans, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She is a daughter of J. B.

and Hannah (Vale) Semans, natives of Indiana, and her union with Mr. Lyon has resulted in the birth of three children: Horace T., Orin Raymond and Opal N.

Samuel McClure, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. Mr. McClure is a man who has risen to considerable prominence in the affairs of Clay County, not less in agricultural matters than in other circles of active business life, and is a respected, intelligent and progressive citizen of the community in which he makes his home. He owes his nativity to Butler County, Ohio, where his birth occurred on May 7, 1835, and is the second of eleven children born to the union of John and Sarah (Mitchell) McClure, natives of Kentucky and Ohio, and born in 1794 and 1804, respectively. Their children were named as follows: Mary, Martha, Samuel, Catherine, Louisa, Thomas, Robert, Mitchell, Elizabeth and Jeanette. Not being of a studious nature or disposition, Samuel neglected what advantages he had for an education, but assisted his father on the farm until twenty-one years of age when he started out to fight life's battles for himself. He first engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he continued in Ohio until 1859, when he emigrated west to Marshall County, Iowa, and there continued his former occupation. After remaining there for sixteen years he moved further west and settled in Clay County, Neb., in 1874. While in Ohio, in 1858, he married Miss Rebecca McClure, a native of Butler County, Ohio, and the daughter of Robert and Nancy (Gibbs) McClure. To this marriage were born four children: Flora, B., Samuel Calvin, Carrie May and Frederick. Mr. McClure is a staunch Republican and has always taken an interest in the welfare of his county and township. His first presidential vote was cast for a Whig candidate and he has since followed his early convictions, never voting from his party. Although a prominent worker and an acknowledged leader in his party he has never occupied any office, believing he could better serve the interests of the same by doing service at the polls. During the presidential campaigns he was one of the foremost to form campaign clubs and worked most zealously to elect his candidates. He and

family are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Glenville. By his hard work and careful habits he has acquired a large and handsome farm of 320 acres in the west half of Section 3, all the result of his own individual labor, assisted by his faithful wife. He has added to his stock until his farm stands among the foremost in the township and county.

James McCormick is a tiller of the soil, and is known over a large region of country tributary to Verona, and his reputation is that of a man honorable and reliable in every walk of life. He may be truly said to be a self-made man, for he started out in life with little or no means, and is now far beyond the reach of want. He was born in Paisley, Scotland, December 20, 1840, and is a son of William and Margaret McCormick, natives, respectively, of Ireland and Scotland. James McCormick came to the United States with his parents in 1845, and was brought up in Philadelphia, Pa., where he learned the occupation of gardening. In the spring of 1872 he came to Clay County, Neb., and homesteaded the quarter section of land on which he is now living, and since 1879 has been a permanent resident of this county, and has followed the occupations of farming and stock-raising very successfully. When the war, which had so long threatened this country, became an assured fact, Mr. McCormick quit the plow to enlist in Company D, Sixth Regiment New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and was a faithful servant of Uncle Sam for twenty-one months. He is now a member of the G. A. R., and is one of the county's enterprising and successful citizens. He has held various local offices of trust, and at the present time is school director in his district. On July 2, 1872, he was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Mary Ann Daugherty, a native of the "Blue Hen State," and by her he is the father of three children: Mamie, William and Annie. Mr. McCormick is a Democrat in his political views, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

John McCune, farmer and stockman, Glenville, Neb. Mr. McCune is recognized as a careful, energetic agriculturist of this community, and by his advanced ideas and progressive habits has done no

little for the farming element hereabouts. Originally from Cumberland County, Pa., where his birth occurred in 1840, he is the eighth in a family of eleven children born to Robert and Nancy (Gibbs) McCune, natives of the Keystone State, the father born in 1804, and the mother in 1806. The parents were married in their native State, and in 1855 emigrated to Marshall County, Ill., where they followed farming. There the father died in 1877, and the mother one year later. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and the father was a Republican in politics. Their children were named as follows: Ellen J., Rebecca, Margaret, Elizabeth A., Hugh, Mary, Caroline, John, Susan, Bethsheba and Robert S. Young John McCune in his boyhood days attended the common schools of Pennsylvania for a short time, and yet, with this limited education, he has by subsequent study and observation gained such excellent knowledge that no one would imagine at this time that he enjoyed other than the most liberal educational opportunities. He emigrated with his parents to Illinois, and there started out in life for himself as a farmer, which occupation he continued in Marshall County, of that State, from 1862 to 1877. He was married in 1868 to Miss Johanna Heoly, daughter of William Heoly, and a native of Illinois, born in 1847. She was left an orphan when but a child. Mr. McCune emigrated to Nebraska in 1877, settled on the open prairie, and bought 160 acres of railroad land, which is his home tract. He has 160 acres in Glenville Township, and eighty acres in Linn Township—400 acres altogether. To his marriage have been born eight living children, six sons and two daughters: Robert E., William J., Hugh, John H., Elizabeth, Fred, Martha and Ralph. Rena Ellen died in January, 1890, at the age of ten years. Mr. McCune has been successful since he started out for himself, and has made all his property by honest, earnest endeavor. He has always adhered to the Republican party, and is interested in all public enterprises. He has a large grove on his place, a good orchard, and about the finest place for a residence in the county.

Hugh McCune is a well-known and highly esteemed resident of Clay County, Neb., and was

born in Cumberland County, Pa., on July 16, 1838, being the eldest son of eleven children born to Robert and Nancy (Gibbs) McCune, natives of Pennsylvania, born in 1804 and 1806, respectively. The schools of those days were not as good as at the present time, and Mr. McCune only obtained the advantages of the common schools, and during the vacations he assisted his father in tilling the soil, moving in 1852 with him to Ohio, and settling in Butler County. After making that State their home for about four years, they emigrated to Marshall County, Ill., from which county Hugh McCune enlisted in the Union army, in March, 1862, in Company C, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He served in the Shenandoah Valley in the spring and summer of 1862, was captured at Harper's Ferry, Va., under Col. Miles, September 16, 1862, and exchanged in January, 1863. He served, in the spring and summer of 1863, in Eastern Kentucky, accompanied Gen. Burnside into East Tennessee in autumn of 1863; was through all the battles and siege of Knoxville, and re-enlisted at Strawberry Plains, Tenn., in April, 1864. After spending thirty days at home on veteran furlough, he rejoined Gen. Sherman's army near Dalton, Ga., and served through the campaign, till the fall of Atlanta, following Hood when he started north on his raid to Tennessee. The corps to which he belonged (the Twenty-third) was then detached and sent back to Nashville under Gen. Thomas, after which Mr. McCune participated in the fighting at Columbia, on Duck River, the battle of Franklin, the siege and battle of Nashville, which terminated in the almost total annihilation of Hood's army. The Twenty-third Corps was then transferred via Washington City to Fort Fisher, N. C.; was engaged in the fighting at Fort Anderson, Cape Fear River, the fight at old Town Creek and capture of Wilmington, and rejoined Gen. Sherman at Goldsborough, N. C., and served through the operations of that army, which terminated in the surrender of Gen. Johnston's army and the downfall of the Southern Confederacy. He was discharged from the United States service the latter part of July, 1865, at Greensborough, N. C. After receiving his discharge, Mr. McCune returned to his home

in Illinois, and in the spring of 1873 emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he took up a homestead claim. January 23, 1869, he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Stephens) Whitton, natives of Scotland. Mrs. McCune was born in 1843, and her union with Mr. McCune has resulted in the birth of nine children, eight of whom are living: Laura (wife of William H. Haight), William, John C., Margaret N., Thomas Francis, Carrie E., Arthur and Bertha M. Gracie is deceased. Mr. McCune is a Republican in politics, is a member of John A. Jordan Post No. 239, G. A. R., of Clay Center, and was elected to the office of junior vice-commander. He owns a fine farm of 320 acres, and is engaged in farming and stock raising.

Hugh H. McKee, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Mr. McKee is one of those sterling men of Pennsylvania nativity, so many of whom are met with in this portion of the State, who possess such qualities of character as make them successful and prominent almost without exception wherever their lot is cast. He was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1834, and is the only child reared by his parents, Thomas and Martha (Hamilton) McKee, natives also of the Keystone State. The father was born in 1808 and moved to his native State in 1839. He was a tailor by trade. The mother also died in that State in 1846. Hugh McKee's early life was divided between attending school and in assisting at farm labor. He emigrated to Illinois in 1850, was there married to Miss Sarah Jones, daughter of John Jones, in 1834, and remained in that State engaged in farming for about thirty years. He owned a fine farm in this State, which he sold in 1880 and moved to Clay County, Neb., where he bought his present fine property, which now consists of 320 acres of land in Section 27, Township 8, Range 8. This is all under cultivation, and his residence, barns, outbuildings, and, in fact, all necessary conveniences, indicate the quality of farmer that he is. His success is owing to his good management and honest, hard work. He is a Democrat and is interested in political events; also takes a decided interest in all matters relating to the public good,

especially religious and educational affairs, and is a first-class citizen. He expects to make Nebraska his home, and aside from his farming interests is engaged in stock-raising, having a large number of Poland-China hogs and about 100 head of cattle.

H. L. McKibben, grain shipper for L. Butterfield & Co. of Denver City, is located at Saronville, Neb., and is one of the prominent business men of the place. He was born in Stephenson County, Ill., in 1866, and is the son of J. L. and M. J. (Kerr) McKibben, both natives of the Keystone State. The father came to Illinois when a young man, located near the present site of Chicago and followed farming. He distinctly remembers that at one time he got stuck with a yoke of oxen in the streets of Chicago. He raked after the first reaper (a J. P. Manney) that was ever taken West. He emigrated to Nebraska in 1887, and is now a resident of Saronville. The mother is also alive. They are the parents of ten children, and are members of the United Brethren Church. The McKibbens are of Scotch-Irish descent. The paternal grandmother was a Kilpatrick and the maternal grandmother was a Murry. H. L. McKibben passed his boyhood days in Missouri and Illinois, and received his education in the common and high schools of Stephenson County, Ill. He has been a machinist the principal part of his life, and worked in Chicago for the Northwestern Railroad for three years. He came here and worked first under Patrick Eagan, present minister to Chili. At present he is in the employment of L. Butterfield & Co., works on a salary and does an immense business. He was married November 28, 1888, to Miss Addie Ohlson, a native of Nebraska. Mr. McKibben is a Democrat in politics, and is a prominent man. He shipped about 250 car loads of corn during the year 1889.

William A. McLean. In giving a sketch of the lives of the valuable and successful residents of Clay County, Neb., mention should be made of Mr. McLean, who is one of the leading farmers and stockmen of this region. He was born in Montgomery County, Ill., November 25, 1838, being one of three surviving members of a family of five children born to Joseph and Abigail (Pais-

ley) McLean, who were natives of the "Old North State." William A. McLean resided in Montgomery County, being engaged in attending school and farming until the opening of the Civil War, and April 9, 1861, volunteered to serve in the Union army, in the Ninth Illinois Regiment, under Capt. J. J. Phillips, and served until the time of enlistment had expired, when he returned home, remaining until August 9, 1862, when he re-enlisted, this time becoming a member of Company B, One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois, under Capt. Robert McWilliams. He was shot in his right arm in a skirmish near Champion's Hill, and was a participant in the following engagements: Pleasant Hill, Tupelo, Nashville, Forts Spanish and Blakely, and was in a number of skirmishes near Mobile. He was in about thirty-three engagements in all, and served until August 5, 1865, when he was given an honorable discharge. He then returned to his Illinois home, but in the spring of 1872 he came west and pre-empted a claim in Clay County, Neb., which now makes him a comfortable home. He was married in the spring of 1862 to Miss Eliza Minor, by whom he has a family of three children: Abigail E. (wife of John Cruickshank), Hattie and Cora. Mr. McLean was called upon to mourn the death of his wife August 6, 1871, her death being caused by consumption, and after remaining a widower until June, 1885, he espoused Miss Margaret J. Dawson, a daughter of Matthew and Hannah (McCandless) Dawson. She was born in Illinois August 18, 1855, and by Mr. McLean is the mother of three children: William L., Earle H. and Earnest M. Mr. McLean is a Republican politically, and since his sojourn here has been elected to fill a number of positions of trust, being elected to the position of constable in 1884. He is a member of John A. Jordan Post No. 239, of the G. A. R., in which he is senior vice-commander, and he also belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. Himself and wife are members of the Clay Center Congregational Church, and he has a farm which comprises 320 acres of land, well improved with buildings and in an excellent state of cultivation.

George R. McMaster, farmer and stockman.

Of the many citizens of foreign birth now residing in Clay County, none are more respected or held in higher esteem than the subject of this sketch. He was born in Scotland in 1848, and his parents, John and Anna (Strouter) McMaster, were natives of the same country. They emigrated to the United States in 1860, settled in the State of Illinois, and there received their final summons, the mother in 1885 and the father in 1888. George R. McMaster came with his parents to the United States, settled with them in Illinois, and was married in Knox County, of that State, to Miss Blanche Shear, the daughter of Henry D. and Elizabeth Ann (Moulter) Shear, both now living and residing in Knox County, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. McMaster were born six children: Blanche, John H., Jeanette, Frank, George A. and Clara E. In 1885 Mr. McMaster came to Nebraska, settled in Lincoln Township, Clay County, and is now the owner of 200 acres of excellent land, all the result of his own exertions. He has also been very successful in raising fruit, and is considered one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the county. He is a staunch Republican in his political views and takes quite an interest in politics. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Capt. George W. Martin is the present popular and efficient postmaster of Harvard, Neb., and is a highly esteemed and worthy citizen of that place. He was born in Ohio County, W. Va., about fourteen miles southeast of Wheeling, July 22, 1827, and was a son of Samuel and Susan (Sisson) Martin, who were born in Wheeling, W. Va., and Baltimore, Md., in October, 1797, and in May, 1804, respectively. The paternal grandparents, Alexander and Mary (Williamson) Martin, were natives of Ireland and came to America with their respective parents and became acquainted and were married in West Virginia. The mother of Capt. Martin was the daughter of Lewis and Frances (Powell) Sisson, the former a Virginian and the latter born in Maryland. Their parents were born in England. Samuel Martin and his wife were married in Washington County, Pa., about 1820, and became the parents of nine children: Maria, Frances,

George W., Sarah, Eliza Ann, Alexander, Martha, Lewis L. and Susan C., all of whom are living except Maria. The father of these children was an energetic tiller of the soil, and died in Scott County, Ill., November, 1845, his wife dying in the same house in February, 1866. When the subject of this sketch was between six and seven years of age, or in the spring of 1834, his parents moved to that part of Morgan County, Ill., that has since become a part of Scott County, Ill., and there his boyhood and early manhood were spent in farm work and in attending the common schools. On March 18, 1847, he was married in Greene County, Ill., to Miss Angeline Conway, a native of Madison County, Ill., born March 12, 1829, being a daughter of John and Hannah (Renfro) Conway, the former a Kentuckian and the latter a native of Madison County, Ill. In the fall of 1848 Mr. Martin removed with his wife and one child to Dallas County, Tex., where he gave his attention to farming for ten years, and there his wife died on March 8, 1855. December 22, 1856, he espoused Miss Rachel M. Harris, who was born in Madison County, Ill., December 25, 1828, being a daughter of John and Rachel (Ramsey) Harris. Mr. Martin was so unfortunate as to lose this wife also, her death occurring in Dallas County, Tex., October 29, 1857. Shortly after her death Mr. Martin, accompanied by his two children, returned to Illinois and located in Scott County, which had been formed in 1839. There he was married, on April 10, 1860, to Miss Cornelia M. Richmond, of Madison County, N. Y., born December 28, 1837, a daughter of Tragen Hoyt and Lydia Maria (Kazier) Richmond. While residing in Scott County, on August 9, 1862, Mr. Martin enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until September 21, 1864, when, on account of impaired health, he was honorably discharged at Atlanta, Ga. He had enlisted as a private, but upon the organization of his company, he was elected its captain, and served in this capacity during the whole time he was in the service. He commanded his company in the battles of Resaca, Ga., the Dallas Woods fight and the battle of

Peach Tree Creek, in all of which he made a brave and competent officer. He returned to Scott County, Ill., and in the fall of 1865 was elected to the office of county clerk, and by re-election served in all twelve consecutive years. For four and a half years after his last term expired he served as deputy county clerk for his successor, but this position he resigned in June, 1882, and the following fall was elected sheriff of that county, serving one term of four years. In 1886 he removed to Harvard, Neb., reaching this place on December 10, and here he purchased a book and stationery establishment, which he has successfully conducted ever since. October 1, 1889, he was appointed postmaster of Harvard, and is a capable officer. He and his present wife have a family of nine children: Dora F., George L. A., Nora A., Ida C., Minnie A., May, Hoyt R., Holland and Edward S., of whom Dora, George, Holland and Edward are deceased. Capt. Martin, his wife and all their children are members of the Christian Church, and he is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the G. A. R. and the I. O. O. F., being a member of the Encampment in the last named order. He has always been a devoted member of the Republican party. He is an upright and worthy citizen, and in every station in life, whether as a military or civil officer, or as a private citizen, he has discharged his duties in a manner becoming a loyal citizen and a true man. He had four children by his first wife: Eliza J., Susan H., Mary E. and John C.; Susan H. and John C. dying in infancy. Eliza J. married M. W. Wilcox, M. D., and Mary E. married Elijah Bradwell, who is a druggist of Fairfield, Neb. Dr. Wilcox is among the leading practitioners in Central Nebraska.

Thomas H. Matters. Bacon says, "the greatest trust between man and man is the trust of giving counsel, for in other confidences men commit the parts of life—their lands, their goods, their child, their credit some particular affair; but to such as they make their counselors they commit the whole. By how much the more are they obliged to all faith and integrity. The profession of law is thus the most momentous and important of

human callings, and he who takes upon himself the practice of it assumes the weightiest responsibilities that the confidence and trust of his fellow-man can put upon his shoulders. As it is a branch of human endeavor which brings into play the most brilliant talents, the most extensive knowledge, the strongest sentiments, moral, spiritual, material, its power for good or evil is vast and invincible." Mr. Matters was born in La Salle County, Ill., August 24, 1858, a son of Thomas and Agnes (Brown) Matters, who were born, reared and married in Lanarkshire, Scotland, and emigrated to America in 1854, settling first in Thomastown, Pa., and later in La Salle County, Ill., where they made their home until 1865. They then moved to Grundy County, Ill., and here the mother's death occurred September 13, 1871, and three years later Thomas H. accompanied his father to Clay County, Neb. Up to this time he had received very meager educational advantages, and as his father was in very needy circumstances and he, himself, had no means whatsoever save willing hands and a mental capacity to direct them with prudence, he was thrown almost if not entirely upon his own resources. His first object was to secure an education, and he began applying himself diligently to his studies, knowing this to be a sure foundation for any future success which he might hope to attain, being for some time a student in the Harvard public schools, and during his leisure moments he worked hard and diligently at whatever he could find to do, and in this manner passed through school. In the meantime he had aspired to law as his future calling, and the success which has attended his efforts in pursuing this science has not been attained without severe and continued struggling, which clearly shows that pluck and indomitable energy are among his chief characteristics. For some time after leaving school he labored at farming also, and by good management and industry he soon became the owner of a good farm. In the month of May, 1880, he was admitted to the bar, and January 4, 1883, was admitted to the supreme court, and has practiced his profession with success ever since. He is now one of the county's most substantial men, and upon the or-



Gans & Co
Thos. N. Matters

CLAY COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

ganization of the First National Bank, August 24, 1889, he was elected its president and still holds that position. As an attorney, he is one of the most successful, and his practice reaches throughout Central Nebraska. March 21, 1880, he was united in marriage to Miss Marguerite L. Wistrom, by whom he is the father of three interesting children: Gertrude (born December 23, 1881), Agnes Irene (born February 23, 1885) and Thomas H., Jr. (born in February, 1883.) Mr. Matters and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and he belongs to the L. O. O. F., and in his political views is a staunch Republican and an active worker for the cause of temperance. He is one of the trustees of Fairfield College, and is a man whose judgment is sought on other matters than law.

J. Meehan, farmer and stock raiser, Spring Rancho, Neb. Mr. Meehan is a native of the Bay State, his birth occurring in Boston in 1845, and when about five years of age went with his uncle, Martin McHugh, to West Bend. On account of the death of his father he was obliged to start out in life for himself when about twelve years of age, and first engaged in driving a team along the lake shore. This he continued for about five years, and in September, 1862, he enlisted in the United States army, Company G, First Wisconsin Cavalry, and during the war was in the battles of Cape Girardeau, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Shelbyville, and numerous other engagements. He was taken prisoner at Centreville, Ala., while on the Wilson raid and while carrying dispatches for Maj. Shipman. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., in June, 1865, and at the close of the war settled at Mankato, Minn., where he tilled the soil on land entered from the government. He was married in 1866 to Miss Mary Wilson, the daughter of George and Alvina (Brown) Wilson, of Minnesota. Mr. Meehan came to Nebraska in the fall of 1870, settled in the neighborhood of Spring Rancho with a company of trappers, and found everything wild and unsettled. Indians were numerous and wild animals of all kinds abounded. The place on which his pleasant home now stands was the site of the old Pawnee Ranch, on the St. Joseph branch of the California trail, which was destroyed by the Sioux Indians in 1862.

On this place are eleven graves; one has a headstone bearing the name of Francis Huff and the date of death, 1860. Another part of a stone bears the name of Roper, and some of the graves are supposed to contain the remains of the victims of the Sioux Indians. Mr. Meehan took up the south west quarter of Section 4, and has since owned and lived on different farms in both Clay and Adams Counties. He moved to his present farm in 1884, and has improved it with good buildings, etc. He has followed railroading a great deal since coming to Nebraska, and has built twenty-five miles of grade on the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad; seven miles on the Rock Island, nine miles of irrigating ditch in New Mexico, two and a half miles of the Queen Copper Company's Railroad at Bisby, Arizona, five miles of the Pacos Ditch in Southern New Mexico, and the county bridge building and grading of Clay County for nine years. Mr. Meehan is quite a stock man, and is raising the English-shire breed of horses and Poland-China hogs. He has an ice field and fish pond on Pawnee Creek, containing about thirty acres of ground, in which he is feeding Lake Michigan trout, black bass and rainbow trout. He has been successful financially since coming to Nebraska, and is well pleased with the State which he intends to make his permanent home. He is a good Republican in politics, is a member of the G. A. R. and of the Farmers' Alliance. His parents, Philip and Catherine (McHugh) Meehan, were natives of County Common, Ireland, and came to the United States about 1840. They settled in Boston, and there the father followed the trade of a wood turner. He died in Boston, Mass., in 1849, in full communion with the Catholic Church. In politics he was a Democrat. The mother died at Pasadena, Los Angeles County, Cal., March 1, 1890, a Roman Catholic.

Joseph F. Megrue, farmer and stock-raiser, Harvard, Neb. From the biography of every man there may be gleaned some lesson of genuine worth, for here we discover the secret of his success or failure. In the history of Mr. Megrue, one of Clay County's active and progressive citizens, is found much to commend. He was born in Ohio County, Ind., in 1844, and was the young-

est of four children, the result of the union of Joseph F. and Keziah (Shipman) Megrue. Joseph F. Megrue was a native of Ohio, born in 1818, and was a tailor by trade, having followed that calling in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was married in that city in 1833, and reared four children: Mary E. (born in 1837, is now Mrs. Baker, residing in Ohio County, Ind., and has five sons and one daughter), Rachel A. (born in 1840, is now Mrs. Allen, living in Harvard, Clay County, and has three children), Charles (born in 1853, is married, resides in Clay County, and has two children) and Joseph F. The father of these children moved from Ohio to Ohio County, Ind., where he worked at his trade, and later engaged in farming. In 1852 he was taken with the gold fever, went to California, was there four years and was successful. On his return, in 1855, he purchased a farm and tilled the soil in Ohio County, Ind., up to the first year of the war, when he and his brother took a trip to California, to seek gold, and were again successful. They remained absent until 1866 (for four years), and then returned to Ohio County, Ind., where he lived a retired life. He came west to Illinois in 1876, settled in Bureau County, where he farmed for five years, and then the family came to Nebraska. They settled in Harvard, and there the father now resides, living a retired life. He and wife have been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for fifty-five years. He is a Republican and takes a deep interest in political matters. Joseph F. Megrue passed his schoolboy days in Ohio County, Ind., and received a fair education in the common schools. He started out in life for himself by enlisting in the Fifth Ohio Independent Light Artillery, and was in some hard-fought battles. He was at Shiloh, Corinth, siege of Vicksburg, and at Jackson, Miss., where he was wounded in the shoulder by a shell April 7, 1863. He was in the hospital for some time, and later was taken to New Orleans, where he was confined in the hospital for two months. After this he was sent home, where he remained until he recovered and was able to return to his battery. He joined the battery again at Little Rock, Ark., in the fall of 1863,

and was in the battles of Little Rock, Helena and Devall's Bluff. He served out his time in the battery and then re-enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Indiana Infantry, and served until the close of the war, receiving his discharge in 1865. He then returned to Indiana and followed farming. In 1870 he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Zeh, a native of Baltimore, Md., born in February, 1851, and the daughter of Andrew and Anna Zeh. To Mr. and Mrs. Megrue were born five sons (four of whom are living): Lawson (died when three years of age), Andrew Z. (born in 1872), Elmer E. (born in 1874), Floyd E. (born in 1876) and Leroy A. (born in 1878.) After his marriage Mr. Megrue emigrated to Illinois and tilled the soil for five years, and in 1876 came to Nebraska, where he bought 160 acres of land. He now has a nicely improved place. In 1884 he went to Red Willow County, Neb., and engaged in the cattle business for three years, but owing to his range being cut up, sold out and came back to Clay County, where he purchased 160 acres more, on Section 14. He has been successful since coming here, and it is all owing to hard work and good judgment. He is a member of the Republican party and a member of Richardson Post No. 60, of the G. A. R., at Harvard. He and wife are members of the Congregational Church. Mr. Megrue has been a member of the school board in his district for a number of years, and is a prominent man of the county. In connection with his farming interests he is also engaged in raising stock, Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is also raising Norman horses, and has twenty or thirty fine ones. He has a fine place, a good orchard and lots of timber growing. He is interested in churches and schools and all things for the improvement of the country.

Charles A. Morrill is a member of the well-known and highly successful firm of Minnick & Morrill, general merchants of Fairfield, Neb., the business being established in the year 1885. Although they have only been in business a comparatively short time, they have succeeded in establishing a safe and remunerative trade, and their close attention to business, combined with a large

and well-selected stock of goods, which they sell at reasonable rates, have contributed largely to their success. Their establishment is located in Hopper's Building, at the corner of D and Second Streets. Mr. Morrill, the junior member of this firm, was born in North Danville, Caledonia County, Vt., January 24, 1859, and was there reared and educated. After spending his youth as a farmer's boy, he began teaching school, but did not long follow this occupation. In 1883 he emigrated to Kewanee, Ill., where he clerked and kept books in a mercantile establishment until November, 1885, when he came to Fairfield, Neb., and in company with G. A. Minnick opened the establishment with which he is so intimately connected. He was married August 25, 1885, to Miss Anna M. Anderson, a native of Svaneke, Bornholm, Denmark, and their union resulted in the birth of one child, Guy L. Mr. Morrill was formerly a Republican in politics, afterward Independent, and votes for whom he considers the worthiest man, irrespective of party. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and with his family attends the Congregational Church. His parents were Charles L. and Letitia (Works) Morrill, who were born in the "Green Mountain State." Gilbert A. Minnick, of the well-known firm mentioned above, was born in Kewanee, Henry County, Ill., October 17, 1856, being a son of Peter and Mary (Guyer) Minnick, natives of Pennsylvania. He was reared and educated in his native county, and at the age of eighteen years began life for himself as a clerk in a mercantile establishment, continuing until March, 1885, when he came to Clay County, Neb., and in the month of April became associated with A. B. Palmer in business. In the fall of the same year he formed the above partnership, and did a prosperous business until his death. In his political views he was always a Republican, but of strong Prohibition proclivities. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and wife, whom he married May 6, 1885, and whose maiden name was Susie A. Patterson, were members of the Congregational Church. Mrs. Minnick was born in Henry County, Ill., and her union with Mr. Minnick resulted in

the birth of one child, William P. Mr. Minnick's death occurred in the latter part of March, 1890.

John L. Misner is accounted a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser of Linn Township, Clay County, Neb., and like the majority of native Illinoisans is progressive in his views, energetic and strictly honest. He was born in Stephenson County in 1849, and is a son of John and Keziah (Goodwin) Misner, who were born in York State in 1812 and 1817, respectively. In 1844 they emigrated to the State of Illinois and located in Stephenson County on a farm, where the father still resides, his wife having died in 1858. John L. Misner grew to manhood and received the advantages of the common schools of his native county, but in 1871 left his native heath and sought a home for himself on the fertile prairies of Nebraska, homesteading a farm in Clay County, which has since been his home. He has made a pleasant and comfortable home for his family and his farm which comprises a quarter section of land is one of the best in the county. He has a young forest of at least 2,000 trees, an excellent young bearing orchard, and the finest plum orchard in the county. He does a general farming business and has been one of the successful men of the county, and has aided largely in making Clay County one of the leading ones of the State. Mr. Misner has always voted the Republican ticket, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and has at all times taken an active interest in the political and educational interests of Clay County. In 1873 he was elected to the office of constable of his township, a position he held one year. He was married in 1874 to Miss Josephine Wilhelm, a native of Pennsylvania, by whom he became the father of four children: William, Geo., Celia and Mary. The mother of these children died in January, 1889, and in December, 1889, Mr. Misner wedded his present wife formerly Mrs. Belle Tonn, of Illinois nativity.

Henry J. Mitchell. A lifetime devoted with perseverance and energy to the pursuits of agriculture have contributed very materially to the success which has attended the efforts of Mr. Mitchell, a man of substantial and established

worth. He was born in Germany on March 26, 1849, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Schickadance) Mitchell, also natives of that country. In 1852 they emigrated to America and settled in Jefferson County, N. Y., where their son, Henry J., was reared to manhood. He only received meager educational advantages in youth, but educated himself considerably after becoming of age, and when thirteen years old he began the occupation of cheese-making, which calling continued to receive his attention in York State for ten years. At the age of twenty-three years he came west and settled in Ogle County, Ill., and after following the cheese-making business for four years turned his attention to farming, in which occupation he has since been engaged. By careful management and economy he saved enough to enable him to purchase eighty acres of land, and this small farm he managed in such an excellent manner that it proved a paying investment. In the fall of 1883 he moved to Clay County, Neb., and took up a tree claim of 160 acres and afterward added to it by purchasing an additional 160 acres in Section 23. Although he has not been here any great length of time yet he has shown an enterprising disposition and has made so many valuable improvements on his property that his farm is considered one of the best in the county. He has built a handsome one-and-a-half-story residence, substantial barns and accompanying sheds for his cattle, and his farm is well stocked. He has a beautiful grove of ten acres west of his residence, composed of young ash and box-elder trees, and as the trees are nearly all of one size they form an attractive appearance during the summer and autumn. March 30, 1875, he was married to Miss Sarah E. Royce, a daughter of Charles C. and Margaret (Rathbun) Royce, her birth occurring December 16, 1849, in Illinois, and their union has resulted in the birth of four children: Elton H., Charles E., Myrtle L. and Alta May. Mr. Mitchell is now a Prohibitionist, although formerly a Republican in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Clay Center, he being a trustee and Sunday-school superintendent. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and is chaplain of Harmony Lodge.

E. J. Moger has made his own way in life, as he was left an orphan without a great deal of means, when in his twelfth year. He was born in the city of New York in 1827, being an only child reared by Jordan and Phoebe N. (Lyon) Moger, both of whom were born in Westchester County, N. Y., the latter a daughter of Jonathan Lyon. After their marriage they removed to the city of New York, where Mr. Moger became a member of the city police force, and there died on September 7, 1829, followed by his wife about ten years later. E. J. Moger's parents left him forty acres of land and he started out in life for himself in La Grange County, Ind., following the occupation of harness making for a number of years. He was married in this State in 1848 to Miss Emeline A., a daughter of Enoch and Betsey (Pettigrove) Buck, who were York State people, her father being born in 1800. Mrs. Moger was also born in that State, September 5, 1829, and she and Mr. Moger have had a family of six children born to them: Albert J. (born April 3, 1851), Phoebe E. (born July 31, 1853), Walter E. (born May 14, 1858), William H. (born March 1, 1860, and died in September of the same year), Mary O. (born November 17, 1861), Edward L. (born April 15, 1866). After leaving Indiana Mr. Moger and his family settled in Illinois, near Princeton, where he followed farming and also worked at his trade. From there he enlisted in 1862, in Company B, Ninety-third Illinois Infantry, but was taken sick at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and after returning home he remained until about December 12, then joined his regiment at Memphis, Tenn. He was first in the quartermaster's department in this city, then in the post-office department as his sickness had unfitted him for active service. He was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. He received his discharge on July 5, 1865, at Detroit, Mich., after which he returned to his family in Illinois. He then clerked in a general store in Dover until 1871, and in the spring of that year emigrated to Clay County, Neb., and took up a claim of 160 acres in Harvard Township, where he lives at the present time, his family having joined him in the spring of 1872. During the first few years of his residence here he

experienced many hardships, but has slowly, tho' surely, improved his place and accumulated means, until he is now a well-to-do citizen. His buildings and other improvements are much above the average, and although he resided in Harvard from 1877 to 1890, engaged in the law office of W. H. Farner and John D. Hayes, he has been content to return to his farm. By a vote of the citizens he was elected to ask the Governor of the State for a proclamation to organize Clay County, which he obtained June, 1871, and as there were not enough local voters at that date to hold the offices, the matter was postponed until October or November of the same year. Mr. Moger is a member of the G. A. R., Richardson Post at Harvard, and he and wife are members of the Congregational Church.

Albert J. Moger, agricultural implement dealer, Harvard, Neb. The inventive genius of this progressive age has found one of its most fertile fields in devising implements designed to lighten the labors of the agriculturist, and the progressive farmer of the day is provided with machines which to a great extent relieve him from heavy manual labor. Among houses well known for the circulation of these wonderful devices is that of Albert J. Moger, which business was established in Harvard in 1885. Mr. Moger was born in La Grange County, Ind., April 3, 1851, and is the son of Edward J. and Amanda (Buck) Moger, the father a native of New York City, and the mother of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Moger were married on July 4, 1848, and to them were born six children, of whom five are now living. The parents are residing in Harvard Township, Clay County, Neb. Albert J. Moger was but six years of age when his parents removed to Bureau County, Ill., and he was reared partly on the farm and partly in the village of Dover. He attended Academy in Dover a year and a half after leaving district school and at the age of twenty came to Clay County, Neb., where he has resided ever since, with the exception of four months that he spent in Harlan County, Neb. At the age of twenty-one he took up a homestead in Harvard Township, upon which he resided during the greater part of the time from 1872 to 1885. At the last mentioned date

he removed to Harvard, engaged in the implement business, and is now one of the leading dealers of that kind in the county. He was married on December 25, 1879, to Miss Luella Kennedy, a native of Illinois, and the daughter of Andrew and Laura B. Kennedy, natives of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Moger have had two children, Emma and Dorr A., the younger of whom died at the age of three years. Mr. Moger is a member of the I. O. O. F., the M. W. A., and he is a Republican in his political views. He is doing an excellent business and is a prominent citizen.

John T. Mollyneaux, owner and proprietor of the Oakland Hotel, at Sutton, was originally from the Blue Grass State, his birth occurring in Campbell County, on November 5, 1850, and is a son of Dr. James K. and Harriet (West) Mollyneaux. The father was born in Ohio in 1828, and for many years, or since 1854, has been a prominent and successful physician. The mother was born in Richmond, Va., in 1832. Their family consisted of eight children, and of these John T. was the eldest. He was educated at Lexington, Ky., Transylvania University, and in 1871 came to Nebraska, where he spent three years at Crete, one year at Beatrice, and later, for four years, was in the hotel business at Lincoln. He came to Sutton in 1879, and for eleven years had charge of the Occidental Hotel in that place, but in July, 1889, he became the owner of the Oakland Hotel, one of the best on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. Mr. Mollyneaux has spent altogether eighteen years in the hotel business, and is eminently qualified as proprietor and owner to look after the wants and comfort of the traveling public. He was married in February, 1879, to Miss Margaret A. Allen, a native of Canada, born December 11, 1856, and to them have been born two children: Maud and Buford A. In politics Mr. Mollyneaux is an uncompromising Democrat. He is a member of the K. of P., Sutton Lodge No. 75; and I. O. F. No. 53, in which he takes an active part.

Joseph Myer, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. Of those persons of German nativity mentioned in this volume, none are more deserving

of special remark than Joseph Myer, who is one of the substantial and progressive citizens of Inland Township. He owes his nativity to Baden, Germany, where his birth occurred in 1843, and is the youngest in a family of five children born to Jacob Myer. The father was a tailor by trade, and left his native country (Germany) to come to the United States in 1848. He settled in Philadelphia, Pa., and later moved to Freeport, Ill., where he died in 1883 or 1884. The mother died in the old country in 1843. Joseph Myer came to Philadelphia when he was only nine years of age, received his education in that city, and when yet a small boy started out for himself by learning the barber's trade, which he followed until 1861. In April of that year he enlisted in Company I, Twenty sixth Pennsylvania Infantry, in May, 1864, being transferred to Company F, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and took an active part in the following battles: Williamsburgh, Fredericksburgh, and in the battles of the Eastern army, thirty-three in all. In July, 1864, he was taken prisoner at Deep Bottom, Va., and was confined at Libby Prison about six weeks. He was also retained at Bell Isle for two or three weeks, and at Salisbury, N. C., being in prison altogether seven and one-half months. He received a gun-shot wound in his right side at the second battle of Bull Run, and was in the hospital for about six weeks. His wound disabled him from active work, and he was discharged in July, 1865. After returning home Mr. Myer worked at his trade until 1871 in Carroll County, Ill., whither he had emigrated after the war, and was married there in 1866 to Miss Mary M. Eisenbise, a native of the Buckeye State, born in Miami County in 1848, and the daughter of William and Rosanna (Walters) Eisenbise, who are now residing in Carroll County, Ill. Mrs. Myer was the fifth in a family of nine children: Peter, Nicholas, Hannah, Levi, Mary, Sarah (deceased), George, John (deceased) and Frank. To Mr. and Mrs. Myer were born ten children: Fay W., Charles E., William J., Rosa May, Arthur, Joseph, Jr., Ernest A., Hattie J., Dicy B. and James. Mr. Myer and family emigrated to Nebraska in 1872, and there took up 160 acres of land. He now has three quarter-

sections and 160 acres in the home tract. He has a nice place, well improved, and is deeply interested in the raising of stock. Mrs. Myer is a member of the Evangelical Church, and in his political views Mr. Myer is a Republican. He was elected county commissioner of Clay County in 1885, and held this position with credit to himself and the people until 1889, when the township was organized. In 1873 he was one of the first men elected on the school board in District No. 51, and has been one of the members, more or less, since its organization. He has ever been a warm friend of education, taking active part in all movements tending to benefit or encourage school facilities in the community, and is anxious that his children should have every opportunity for an education. He is a man of marked character, and more than ordinary prominence in the material affairs of Clay County, having as a result the respect and esteem of all acquainted with him. He has two sisters, Cordelia (residing in Philadelphia, Pa.) and Catherine (residing in Freeport, Ill.).

Louis M. Nelson, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. In mentioning those of foreign birth who have become closely associated with the farming and stock-raising interests of Clay County, we should not fail to present an outline of the career of Mr. Nelson, for it is one which has fully borne out the reputation of that class of industrious, energetic men of Swedish nativity who have risen to prominence in different portions of this country. He was born in Sweden in 1852, and there received a fair education. He emigrated to the United States in 1873, settled in Whiteside County, Ill., and there cultivated the soil. He started to farm for himself in 1875, and the same year was wedded to Miss Nellie Johnson, a native also of Sweden and the daughter of John Kullburg, also of that country. Mr. Nelson emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he now resides, and he there purchased eighty acres of railroad land, which he has since increased by adding sixty acres. The improvements on this place are complete, and the neatness and order noticeable about the home indicate the progressive agriculturist that he is. He also handles stock to some extent. When he first

came to Nebraska he had but \$20 and four horses. Since then success has followed his efforts, and he is one of the substantial men of the county. To his marriage were born eight children: Selma, Andrew, Inga, Oscar, Ella, Anna, Mary and Louie.

Hon. Daniel M. Nettleton, farmer and stock-raiser, Spring Ranche, Neb. Clay County is acknowledged by all to be one of the best agricultural portions of the State, and as such its citizens are men of advanced ideas and considerable prominence. A worthy man among this class is found in the person of Daniel M. Nettleton, who owes his nativity to County Antrim, Ireland, where his birth occurred November 3, 1840, and is the youngest of eight children born to Benjamin and Maria J. (English) Nettleton, natives also of Ireland. The father came to the United States about 1843, settled in Lee County, Ill., near Paw Paw, and there entered 140 acres of land and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was a man noted for his great piety and zeal in religious work. He died March 3, 1852. The mother was of Scotch descent, her ancestors having settled in Ireland about 1600. She died at Paw Paw, Ill., in 1873. Hon. Daniel M. Nettleton spent his school days at Paw Paw, Lee County, Ill., and his early life up to sixteen years of age was divided between assisting on the farm and in attending the public schools. After this he began teaching school, followed this profession in the winters and attended La Clare Academy during the summer months until the summer of 1861, when he enlisted in Company I, Fourth Illinois Cavalry. He participated in the following battles: Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Coffeeville and many others. He was wounded at Cross Bayou, Miss., July 22, 1864, which resulted in the permanent injury of his left leg, and he was discharged November 3, 1864, after being in service for three years and two months. After returning from the war he engaged in farming in Lee County, Ill., and thus continued until the spring of 1872. He was married in 1868 to Miss Henrietta Davenport, of Bureau County, Ill., the daughter of William and Margaret (Phillips) Davenport. In the spring of 1872

Mr. Nettleton and family emigrated to Spring Ranche, Neb., and homesteaded a quarter section of land, to which he has since added one-half section, and now has a good farm of 480 acres. He has been very successful in Nebraska, and is satisfied to make that State his permanent home. He has made a decided success of fruit-growing, and has one-half acre in small fruit and seven acres in apples, peaches, pears, cherries, etc. He is engaged in raising horses, hogs and cattle for the general market, and is one of the progressive farmers of the county. He is a Republican in politics, and has served frequently as a delegate to the county and State conventions. He has served two terms as a member of the Legislature with perfect satisfaction to his constituents. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and of the G. A. R.

Hon. William Newton is a prominent farmer and stockman of Clay County, Neb., and was born in London, England, December 31, 1845, being a son of Clement and Mary A. (Natrass) Newton, who emigrated to America with their family in 1847, first locating in New York City, where the father engaged in contracting and building; in 1852 moving to Staten Island, N. Y., where he continued the same business until his death, in 1872, at the age of forty-nine years. His wife died in Iowa, in 1858, aged thirty-nine years. William Newton learned the mason's trade of his father, and at the latter's death he assumed control of affairs until 1878, then sold out to come west, and settled on the southeast quarter of Section 15, Township 7, Range 7 west, and has since purchased an adjoining quarter section of land, and has it all fenced and well improved. His buildings are all substantial and commodious, and he has an excellent young orchard and a great number of forest trees. All his operations have been carried on according to the most advanced and progressive ideas, and have resulted to his own good and to the benefit of those with whom he has come in contact. He has gained the reputation of being one of the foremost tillers of the soil in the county, and as a man has gained the confidence and respect of all who know him. In 1869 he was married to

Miss Elizabeth Hartley, of England, she being a daughter of Richard and Ellen (Sutcliff) Hartley, of that country. Mr. and Mrs. Newton have five children: Alice Maria (born in 1871), Susannah (in 1873), Elizabeth (in 1875), Mark Hartley (in 1880) and Beatrice (in 1883). Mr. Newton and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church; in his political views he is a Republican, and for three years served as county commissioner. In 1887 he represented his county in the State Legislature and discharged the duties of this responsible position in a highly creditable manner and to the satisfaction of all concerned. He has also recently filled the position of township supervisor for Lynn Township.

Flavius Northrop came to Clay County in July, 1872, locating in Marshall Township (being the first settler in this township), where he took up a homestead of eighty acres (the north half of the southeast quarter of Section 34), and here has since resided, successfully engaged in tilling the soil to the present time. He was born in Litchfield County, Conn., December 30, 1828, a son of Lord W. and Cornelia (Bulkley) Northrop, natives of Connecticut. He was reared to manhood in his native State, securing a common-school education, and learning the hatter's trade, and afterward followed this trade and farming. He was married in Ohio, November 22, 1849, to Miss Almira E., daughter of Stephen and Laura (Cochran) Cannon, natives of Massachusetts, born in Aurora. Portage County, Ohio, March 15, 1829, and immediately after his marriage took up his residence in Connecticut. In 1853 he moved from Connecticut to Portage County, Ohio, and resided there for two years, then emigrated to Johnson County, Iowa, where he farmed until 1856; then went to Buffalo County, Wis., and farmed until 1873, when he came to Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Northrop are the parents of seven children, all living, viz.: Welton, Stephen, Clayton, Walter, Doctor, Laura and Frederick. Mr. Northrop has been a life-long Republican, but is now an anti-Monopolist, and is an enthusiastic member of the Farmers' Alliance. He and wife are comfortably situated in their pleasant country home, surrounded by several sons

who own land adjoining and near them, and are justly recognized as one of the respected and pioneer families of Clay County.

John O'Brien, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. (postoffice, Spring Rancho). Among the many enterprising and respected citizens of foreign birth now residing in Clay County, none are more deserving of mention than the subject of this sketch. Mr. O'Brien was born in County Meath, Ireland, June 22, 1835, and is the eldest in a family of four children born to Thomas and Margaret (Bennett) O'Brien, natives of the same county as our subject, the father born in 1809 and the mother in 1804. The family came to the United States in 1846 and lived for a while in the city of New Orleans, afterward in St. Louis, Mo., where they remained for two years, moving from there to Logan County, Ill., and settling on the broad prairies, five miles southeast of the city of Lincoln. There they tilled the soil for many years. John O'Brien, by careful management and economy, saved sufficient means to purchase a farm of eighty acres, which he cultivated until 1885, when he sold out for \$65 per acre, and emigrated to Clay County, Neb. There he purchased his present farm, consisting of 320 acres of as good land as is to be found in the county. The farm lies on both sides of the road, in the southern part of Glenville Township, and is well stocked and improved. Mr. O'Brien was married January 6, 1867, to Miss Anna Nolan, daughter of John and Mary (Kearns) Nolan, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. By this union there were born five sons and two daughters: Thomas R. (born January 18, 1868), J. William (March 28, 1869), Maggie A. (April 29, 1871), James E. (February 10, 1873), Peter C. (October 22, 1874), Patrick H. (October 8, 1877) and Mary E. (February 21, 1880). Mr. O'Brien is a Democrat in his political principles, and his boys are all strong adherents to that party. The family believe in the Roman Catholic religion. Being one of the progressive farmers, Mr. O'Brien has all the latest improved machinery to aid him in his work in the fields. He has a handsome residence, substantial outbuildings, etc., and is one of the county's best citizens.

John L. Oliver, editor and manager of the Fairfield "Herald," was born in Lewistown, Pa., May 10, 1849, and is a son of George W. and Margaret (Jackson) Oliver, who were also born in Pennsylvania, and were of Irish and (possibly) Scotch descent, respectively. About 1864 John L. Oliver removed with his mother and the remainder of her children to Illinois, and took up residence in Piatt County, Ill., in which State and in Indiana he finished his literary education, being an attendant at the Illinois College at Jacksonville for two years, and Wabash College of Crawfordsville, Ind. After following agricultural pursuits in Illinois, and later in his native State until 1874, he emigrated to Nebraska and purchased a good piece of land near Spring Rancho and was a worthy tiller of the soil for several years. In 1881 he purchased a controlling interest in the Fairfield "Herald," and has been its editor and manager ever since. Under his able management it has come to be regarded as one of the representative journals of this part of the State, and he has proven himself to be a man of excellent judgment in managing the editorial policy of the paper. He has ever been an earnest advocate of all public enterprises calculated to benefit the county, and through the columns of his paper has wielded no slight influence in directing the proper steps to be taken for their successful promotion. Mr. Oliver is independent in politics, although formerly a Republican, and especially espouses the cause of the agricultural classes. He was married in February, 1879, to Miss Nellie C. Harrington, a native of Lockport, N. Y., and by her has one child, Gracie M. The family attend the Baptist Church.

Nathan A. Overturf. In the brief sketch of this useful and well-respected citizen may be seen how it is possible for a young man to rise in the world through individual efforts, when not in possession of the means other than natural ones. He has been familiar with the details of farming from his earliest youth, but since 1877 he has resided on a farm of his own, comprising 160 acres, in Clay County, Neb., and in addition to following the plow has given his attention to stock raising, in both of which enterprises he has been quite suc-

cessful. He was born in Davis County, Iowa, April 26, 1852, being a son of John M. and Catherine (Shadley) Overturf, natives of Tipton County, Ind. The father, who is now a prominent citizen of Clay County, Neb., emigrated west from his native State some forty years ago and was one of the very first settlers of Davis County, Iowa. He made that county his home until September, 1876, when he with his family, which consisted of William A., Angeline (now the wife of John Berlochen) and Flora E. (wife of Frederick Geis), came to Nebraska and settled in Clay County, where he is now living. George F., the eldest son, had arrived here in 1872, and as above stated Nathan A. came in 1877. The latter deserves much credit for the interest he has taken in the material affairs of the county and as a citizen he is held in high esteem by all. He has always supported the principles of the Democratic party, and from 1885 to 1889 he was justice of the peace in his district. November 21, 1874, witnessed the celebration of his marriage to Miss Margaret Clark, a native of Tipton County, Ind., by whom he has the following family: Allen L., Mary M., Geneva J., Malinda P., Samuel A. and Flora A.

William L. Palmer, editor and proprietor of "The Sun," Clay Center, Neb. This paper is regarded as the best-paying newspaper of Clay County, and the progressive ideas of its editor and proprietor are reflected in every corner of its pages. Mr. Palmer was born on Long Island, N. Y., March 13, 1843, and is the son of Benjamin H. and Mary (Wells) Palmer, also natives of that State, and both born in Southold, Suffolk County. The father and family emigrated to Iowa in 1844, located where Muscatine now stands, and later moved to Wapello County, being one of the pioneers of the same. There he resided until 1873, when he moved to San Jose, Cal., and from thence to Humboldt County, Cal., and there he now makes his home. To his marriage were born six children: William L., Benjamin F., John C., Harriet M. (wife of John McGonigal), Esther (wife of W. L. Cross), and another, the eldest daughter, who died at Muscatine, Iowa. In February, 1869, W. L. Palmer established the "Eddyville (Iowa) Advertiser,"

a weekly paper, which he conducted successfully in Wapello County until 1884. He then moved to Clay Center, Neb., and established "The Sun," which he has since conducted in an able manner, it being the official organ of the Republican party in Clay County. He has always been a staunch Republican in politics, and is and was a warm advocate of high license, having gone through the Iowa campaign an advocate of this principle. He has ever been an earnest supporter of all public enterprises calculated to benefit Clay County, and through the columns of his paper has wielded no slight influence in directing the proper steps to be taken for a worthy movement. He was married to Miss Fannie I. Hamilton, a native of Oskaloosa, Iowa, August 1, 1867, and two living children have been the result of this union: Hattie Fay and Clarence H. Mr. Palmer is a member of the G. A. R. and K. of P., and is recognized as one of Clay Center's successful business men and citizens. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D, Thirty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served as private and non commissioned officer for nearly three years.

John Peterson, farmer and stockman, Sutton, Neb. This name is not unfamiliar to those in the vicinity of Sutton, as well as to others in the county, for he who bears it is numbered among the most substantial and progressive citizens. Born in Denmark, June 15, 1849, he is the only child born to the union of Peter and Elsie C. (Hendrickson) Peterson, natives also of Denmark. John Peterson received a common-school education, and emigrated to the United States in 1871 to escape enlistment. He located in Grand Haven, Mich., where he worked in a brickyard for a few months. He then got sick, and went to Milwaukee, Wis., where he tilled the soil for two years, and was then in the pineries for two more years. After this he was in Chicago, Ill., for a year, and was married to Miss Cora Anderson. He then went west, homesteaded a farm, and later purchased 130 acres. He has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, and likes the State. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party. He and Mrs. Peterson are worthy members of the Lutheran Church. Their family consists of three children:

Anna Christina, Elsie and Peter Andrew. Mr. Peterson's farm is all under fence; he has a nice residence, complete sheds for his stock, and has ninety acres under cultivation. He is thrifty and enterprising, and the future is bright before him.

John Peterson, farmer and stock raiser, Inland, Neb. This esteemed resident of Clay County, a man who has an extensive acquaintance, was born in Northampton County, Pa.; in 1845, and is the sixth in a family of seven children, the result of the union of John and Hannah (Daily) Peterson, natives of Denmark and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was born about 1803, came to the United States when but a boy, and settled in the Keystone State, where he was engaged in the manufacture of furniture. He was married there to Miss Hannah Daily, and to this union were born the following children: Sabina, Aaron, Maria, Hannah C., Emma, John and Julia. Mr. Peterson died in Northampton County, Pa., in 1848, and his wife in the same State in 1873. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. The maternal grandparents were named John and Elizabeth Daily. John Peterson received a good practical education in his native State, and when sixteen years of age enlisted in Company E, Forty-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry, and served in the Eastern army. He participated in the following engagements: Sabine Cross Roads, Berryville, Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, at which place he was wounded in the neck and had his collar bone fractured, and was in the hospital for about five months. He was in service four years and five months, and was a brave and fearless soldier. He received his discharge in January, 1865. After the war Mr. Peterson returned home, and entered a sash and door factory, where he worked for seven years. He was married in 1868 to Miss Martha Thomas, the daughter of William and Lydia Thomas, and to them were born five children: William, Grace (now Mrs. Palmer, of Denver, Colo.), Frank, Ella and Royal. The mother of these children died in Nebraska in 1877, to which State Mr. Peterson had emigrated in 1873, settling in Clay County, on land in Section 18. Mr. Peterson was married in 1879 to Mrs. Char-

lotte Ingalsbe, widow of Willard Ingalsbe, by whom she had these children: Nellie (wife of Mr. Taylor, of Clay County), Charles, Alice, Lottie and Vinnie. By her marriage to Mr. Peterson she became the mother of one child, Florence. Upon coming to Nebraska Mr. Peterson took up a claim of 160 acres, improved it, but in 1882 he sold this, and settled on a place owned by his wife, where he now resides. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, has been a member of the G. A. R., and votes with the Republican party. He is interested in churches, schools and all matters pertaining to the good of the county, and is one of its best citizens.

James H. Phelps, one of Clay County's (Neb.) well-known farmers and stockmen, is a native of Washington County, Ind., born August 28, 1842, being a son of William B. Phelps, a native of New York, who moved to the "Hoosier State" with his parents when a lad, and was there reared to manhood and educated, learning the carpenter's trade in his youth. He was also married there to Miss Lucinda C. Thomas, a native of that State, and in 1844 they moved to Iowa and settled in Davis County, where he made a farm and there resided until his death in 1869. His wife survives him, and resides on the old homestead in that State. James H. Phelps was the third of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are living and all married with the exception of two, and in Davis County, Iowa, he grew to manhood, and from there enlisted, in the month of August, 1862, in Company F, Thirtieth Iowa Infantry. He took part in the battles of Haines Bluff, siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Atlanta, and was in all the engagements in which Sherman participated on his march to the sea, the siege of Savannah and Goldsboro, besides numerous skirmishes. On the 8th of January, 1863, he was wounded at Fort Hindman by a piece of shell, but considering the number of engagements in which he participated he was quite fortunate to escape so easily. He was present at the grand review at Washington, D. C., and after receiving his discharge at Davenport, Iowa, on the 15th day of June, 1885, he returned to his home in Davis County, Iowa, but

soon after moved to Hancock County, Ill. After remaining there for about a year he returned to Davis County and followed farming and stock raising up to 1873, after which he moved to Jefferson County, Neb. In April, 1875, he arrived in Clay County, Neb., and homesteaded a farm of eighty acres where he now resides. He now owns 160 acres, nearly all of which is fenced, and on his farm are fair buildings of all kinds. He has had a liberal share of the misfortunes that have befallen the early settlers of Nebraska, such as prairie fires, grasshoppers, hot winds and hail storms. He was married in Davis County, Iowa, January 3, 1869, to Miss Martha J. Hall, a native of Virginia, reared and educated in Davis County, Iowa. She is a daughter of George B. Hall, now deceased, and by Mr. Phelps is the mother of five children: Guy O., Ross W., Clema, Louis and Ray. Mr. Phelps is a member of the G. A. R., Edgar Post No. 16.

Hugh E. Potter. Although this gentleman has only resided in Clay County, Neb., since April, 1886, he enjoys the reputation of being not only a substantial and progressive farmer and stock-raiser, but an intelligent and well posted man on all public matters. He is a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in McHenry County on April 13, 1857, a son of Simeon Potter. His youthful days and early manhood were spent there, and he obtained a good practical education in the common schools. In the month of April, 1886, he determined to seek a home for himself on the fertile prairies of Nebraska, and came almost immediately to Clay County and purchased his present admirable farm, consisting of 240 acres, which he has since been successfully engaged in tilling. Mr. Potter has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party, and socially is a member in good standing of the A. O. U. W. His marriage with Miss Martha L. Dodge was consummated on February 11, 1880, she being a native of Johnson, Vt., and their union has been blessed in the birth of two children: Dollie M. and Mollie S.

Hon. M. S. Price, supervisor of Lewis Township, Clay County. New York has given to Linn Township many estimable citizens, but it has con-

tributed none more highly respected, or, for conscientious discharge of duty in every relation of life, more worthy of respect and esteem, than the subject of this sketch. Hon. M. S. Price was born in Cortland County, N. Y., in 1834, and secured a fair education in the district schools. He then embarked in the lumbering business in Cattaraugus County, and was there married to Miss Ellen J. Lyon, a native of Chautauque County, N. Y. The March after his marriage he went to Stephenson County, Ill., settled near Freeport, and there filled the soil for eleven years, residing there during the war. In 1872 he emigrated to Nebraska, and in the spring of the following year moved his family there. He homesteaded the eighty acres where his house now stands in the fall of 1872, and purchased some of his other tracts of land. In 1879 he was elected to the Legislature as a "floater" from Clay and Fillmore Counties, and served one term of two years. He has since been on his farm, and has filled the office of supervisor two terms, holding his second term at the present time. He is a representative citizen, and one who holds the respect and esteem of all. He is now the owner of 320 acres of land, is quite a stockman, and feeds about fifty head of cattle annually. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party. To his marriage were born the following children: Ethel W., Jessie N. (wife of A. Weir) and Sterling M. The Price family were originally from England, two brothers having immigrated to this country at an early date, one settling in New York and the other drifting westward, where Gen. Price's family originally came from. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of New York, and the latter's parents, John and Mary (Wiley) Price, were also natives of the Empire State, both of Oswego County, the father born on January 18, 1790, and the mother born on May 30, 1789. They were the parents of ten children, nine of whom grew to maturity. The mother died in July, 1850, and the father in 1866.

Charles M. Prickett, real estate, loan and insurance agent, Fairfield, Neb. The magnitude of the real estate interests in this city and the incessant activity in the market have enlisted the serv-

ices of many of our most responsible men, and among the number is Charles M. Prickett. He was born in McHenry County, Ill., on May 22, 1851, and is the son of Henry and Charlotte (Lusty) Prickett, natives of England. Charles M. was educated at the Illinois Industrial University (now Illinois University), of Champaign, where he completed a three-years' course in civil engineering. He then taught school a year, after which he followed his profession in Iowa and Dakota, making railroad surveys and government surveys of lands, at which he continued until the fall of 1885, when he came to Fairfield. He soon after engaged in his present business, in which he has met with very good success. On October 20, 1886, Miss Nellie C. Ladd, a native of McHenry County, Ill., became his wife, and to them has been born one child, a daughter, Bernice M. Mr. Prickett is a Democrat in politics, but belongs to the conservative class. He is one of the prominent men of the county and at present holds the office of city civil engineer of Fairfield.

Rev. Thomas Pugh is a retired minister of the Congregational Church, and is now residing at Fairfield, Neb. He was born in the south of Wales on December 9, 1813, and is the eldest son of John and Winifred (Davis) Pugh, both natives of South Wales. The paternal grandparents were John and Winifred (Hughes) Pugh. John Pugh, the father of our subject, learned the iron manufacturer's trade in his youth and rose to the position of superintendent of the iron mills at Abernant, in Aberdore, Wales, these mills having been erected in 1823. He was married when about twenty-five years of age, and his union resulted in the birth of six children: Mrs. Rachel Evans, Thomas (the subject of this sketch), Mrs. Margaret Thomas, Mrs. Ruth Williams (a resident of Hyde Park, Pa.), Henry (who died in Wales about 1855) and Mrs. Ann Thomas (who died in 1888 near Cleveland, Ohio). The father of these children was a deacon in the Congregational Church in Wales and died about 1853, his wife passing to her long home in 1828. Thomas Pugh was educated in his native land and after learning the iron manufacturer's trade he began doing for himself when about

twenty three years of age. On October 10, 1836, he was married to Miss Mary Williams, a daughter of Thomas and Joan Williams, the former of whom was also an iron manufacturer of Wales. To this union a family of eight children were born; six of the children died young—two daughters are still living: Mrs. Winifred Jenkins (of Fairfield, Neb.) and Mrs. Ann Davis (of Denver, Colo.). At the age of eighteen years, Thomas Pugh began his theological studies while working at his trade, was ordained in 1841, and in 1842 came to the United States and settled in Eastern Pennsylvania, where he acted as pastor of a Welsh congregation for over three years. In the latter part of 1844, he removed to Pittsburgh, Pa., and there like Paul of old, made tents and preached the gospel, for he devoted some of his time to his trade as well as to saving souls. In 1852 he removed to Iron-ton, Lawrence County, Ohio, where he organized and had charge of a Congregational Church until 1858, at which time he returned to his native land, and there remained until 1862. While there he recognized the great need of schools for the education of the young, and through his efforts, he being aided by means by the superintendent of the iron mills, he was enabled to erect an educational institution in his native town, which has ever since been in a flourishing condition and a great blessing to the rising generations thereabouts. In 1862 he came back to America and again settled in Eastern Pennsylvania, taking charge of two Welsh Congregational Churches in the Lehigh Valley, but in 1868 removed to Macon County, Mo., remaining there until 1870, when he settled in Dodge County, Neb. After a two-years' residence there he came to Clay County, and organized and took charge of the First Congregational Church at Fairfield, and after filling the pulpit for six years he retired on account of his advanced years, much to the regret of every member of his charge. During his ministerial labors he was identified with almost all church and Sunday-school work, and by example as well as precept instilled into the minds of his followers the true beauties of a Christian life. He has lived an active and useful life and is now enjoying a hale old age. A short time since the

fiftieth anniversary of his marriage was celebrated, at which time he and his venerable wife received many tokens of love and esteem from their numerous acquaintances and friends. He is high in his praise of Nebraska as a home, both for business enterprises and social surroundings.

Erwin Ramsey, merchant, Inland, Neb. Aside from the general mercantile business, of which he makes a success, Mr. Ramsey is also engaged in farming and stock raising, and his residence, barns, outbuildings, etc., on his fine farm, two miles east of Inland, indicate the quality of farmer that he is. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., in 1852, and his parents, William and Eliza (McConnell) Ramsey, are natives of the same State, born in Franklin and Juniata Counties. The father's birth occurred in 1813, and he followed mercantile pursuits the principal part of his life. He emigrated to Illinois in 1877, located in Fountain Green, Hancock County, and after a residence of one year there moved, with his family, to Clay County, Neb., and settled in Inland Township, where he bought land in 1878. His death occurred in November of the same year. The mother is still living at Inland with her son, Erwin. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father belonged to the Presbyterian Church. He was a Republican, took an active interest in political affairs, and was a man possessed of more than ordinary business qualifications. They had eight children: Erwin, William, Jennie, Robert, James, Mardie, Anna and Lila. All the children are living except Robert, who died at the age of two years, of membranaceous croup. They reside at Inland, except one sister in Kansas and one sister and a brother in Loup County, Neb. The early life of Mr. Ramsey was spent in Pennsylvania, where he attended the graded schools. At the age of eighteen he went west, located in Wichita, Kas., where he remained one and a half years, returned to Iowa and Illinois, where he lived one year, but on account of ill health went back to Pennsylvania, where he commenced teaching school, and taught one winter, returning to Illinois in the spring and attended Carthage College, and later on took a course in Rush Medical College, Chicago. He

emigrated to Nebraska in 1878, located at Inland, and bought eighty acres of railroad land, which he has since increased to 160 acres, and also owns a quarter-section in Loup County and some town property in Inland. He employed himself in teaching and farming until two years ago, when he bought out the firm of McDowell & Blair, dealers in general merchandise. He was a member of the school board for several years, served as assessor for three terms, and was appointed enumerator to take the national census in 1880. He was married in 1883 to Miss Olive Campbell, daughter of William and Julia Campbell, of Adams County, Neb. His wife had been a teacher for several years. To them were born four children: Mervie, Linnie (who died in 1889), Walker and William (twins, one of whom died in 1889). In politics Mr. Ramsey affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in political affairs. He is largely engaged in raising stock, and makes a specialty of Poland-China and Jersey Red hogs. He is a member of the K. of P. Lodge No. 83, Harvard, Clay County, Neb., and is a man who has acquired his property by his industry and good business ability, and enjoys the confidence of his fellow-men.

Hon. William S. Randall, the very efficient editor and manager of the *Fairfield News*, was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, September 4, 1840, being a son of Amos S. and Mary A. (Gallagher) Randall, who were born in Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father removed to Iowa in 1851, and settled in Washington County, and here his son, William S., was reared to manhood as a farmer, receiving his education in the district schools near his father's home. He was energetically engaged in farm work when the threatening war cloud burst in all its fury, and in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Eighth Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and as a private soldier served "Uncle Sam" faithfully until May, 1866. In the spring of 1873 he came to Clay County, Neb., and took up a homestead claim in Marshall Township, and here made his home until February, 1877, when he moved to Sutton, having been elected to the position of

county treasurer the previous fall. He discharged the duties of this position in a highly efficient manner until 1880 by re-election, and in the spring of the latter year removed to Fairfield and embarked in the agricultural implement business, becoming, in February, 1886, manager of the *Fairfield News*, and has edited and conducted the paper successfully up to the present time. The paper is well established and is considered a representative journal of the State, being edited in behalf of the Republican party, of which Mr. Randall has always been a staunch member. In the month of November, 1886, he was elected by the Republicans of the district to the Nebraska Legislature, and served in the Twentieth General Assembly of that body with honor and distinction. He was on the soldier's home committee, the committee for constitutional amendments, taxation and banks, besides many others of importance, the most noticeable of which was to select from the files the most meritorious bills and recommend them for passage, the committee convening toward the last of the session, he being chairman of the same. In 1890 he was appointed by President Harrison as supervisor of the census for the First census district of Nebraska. March 31, 1864, he was married to Miss Mary C. Boden, a native of Morgan County, Ohio, and by her is the father of four children: Maie L., Edgar S., Frank W. and Laura Pearl. Mr. Randall is a prominent member of the G. A. R., and has been commander of George C. Oliver Post No. 43; was senior vice-commander of the department of Nebraska in 1887, and was also first commander of George C. Meade Post of Sutton. He is a Mason, and is now serving his fourth term as worshipful master; a member of the A. O. U. W., and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. Ray, farmer and stock-raiser, *Fairfield*, Neb. Mr. Ray is a practical, go-ahead farmer, and fully appreciates the comforts of a competence gained by individual efforts. He was born in Muhlenburg County, Ky., in 1828, and his father died before he was born, while his mother died during the first year of his birth. He was taken and reared by James Hammett, of Lacon, Marshall County, Ill.,

and received a fair education in that State. He began life for himself at the age of twenty-one years, as a farmer, and was married in 1849 to Miss E. B. McLaughlin, the daughter of H. A. and Mary (Hammett) McLaughlin. This union resulted in the birth of one child, Mrs. Clara Gates (of Jewell County, Kas.). Mr. Ray lost his first wife in 1854, and in 1855 was married the second time to Mrs. Ann Ridgway, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Prosser) James, natives of Wales. Five children were born to this union: Mrs. Elizabeth Plowman (of Iowa), W. E. (of Montgomery County, Iowa), R. J. (in Colorado), Otis and Oscar. Mr. Ray left Illinois in 1872, settled on a farm in Montgomery County, Iowa, and there tilled the soil until 1878, when he came to his present home in Clay County, Neb. He there bought raw prairie land, began improving it and erected good buildings, outhouses, etc., on the same. He has been very successful as a fruit-grower, and has an abundance of apples, peaches, etc., for home use. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is trustee of the church he attends. In politics he is a Democrat, and as a citizen has the respect and esteem of all. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

William P. Rhodes, farmer and stock-raiser, Spring Rancho, Neb. Not without justice, William P. Rhodes is conceded to hold a representative position among the prominent and successful tillers of the soil in Clay County, and is a man of judgment and sound common sense. He owes his nativity to Greene County, Mo., where he was born in 1854, and is the third child born to the union of William J. and Sarah M. (Cowden) Rhodes. The father was born in McLean County, Ill., in 1825, and received a good practical education in the schools of his native county. He is a farmer by occupation, a Prohibitionist in his political views, and is a member of the Christian Church. William P. Rhodes was reared in McLean County, Ill., received a good education in the common schools and began life for himself at the age of twenty-one as a farmer. He came direct from Illinois to Adams County, Neb., in 1877, purchased a farm two miles southeast of Hastings, and there remained until

the spring of 1885, when he sold out and bought his present farm. This he has greatly improved in the way of buildings, etc., has added eighty acres and has the whole farm under fence. He has been successful since coming to Nebraska, and is satisfied to make this State his home. He is quite a stockman, and is engaged in breeding Hambletonian and Clyde and Clydesdale horses, and also Poland-China hogs. He votes the Republican ticket, and is a man esteemed and respected by all acquainted with him. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and takes an interest in the up-building of schools, churches, and in fact all that pertains to the benefit of the community in which he lives.

James Richard, blacksmith, Harvard, Neb. This worthy citizen of Harvard is another of the many prominent residents of the county who owe their nativity to a foreign country. Mr. Richard was born in Scotland, July 10, 1847, and is the son of George and Catherine (Mather) Richard, the latter of whom still resides in Scotland. The father died there in April, 1885. They were the parents of fourteen children, eight of whom were sons. Three sons came to America. James Richard came to the United States in 1873, and after some time spent at Paterson, N. J., he went to Port Henry, N. Y., where he spent a year and a half. About 1878 he emigrated west and located at Harvard. He had learned the blacksmithing business in his native country and has followed it ever since. He is now in partnership with his brother, John, the firm name being Richard Bros. Mr. Richard was married in White Hall, N. Y., to Miss Mary E. Coutts, by whom he has four children: James, George, Catherine and Andrew. Mr. Richard is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Harvard Lodge. John Richard, the junior member of the firm of Richard Bros., was born in Scotland, April 9, 1857, and there learned the trade of wagon-maker. In 1879 he came to America, and in 1880 located at Harvard, Neb., where he formed a partnership with his brother James. They have since conducted a first class blacksmith shop at that place and are enterprising business men. In 1885 he returned to Scotland, and was there married to

Miss Ellen Taylor, who returned with him to the United States, and who has borne him two children: George and Isabella. Mr. and Mrs. Richard are members of the Congregational Church and are much respected citizens. Mr. Richard is a member of the M. W. A., and in politics is Democratic.

O. J. Riley, a prominent grocer of Harvard, Neb., and a substantial and influential citizen of that place, was born in Bradford County, Pa., April 29, 1844, being a son of Joseph and Jane (Dodge) Riley, the former a native of New England, and the latter of Bradford County, Pa. Joseph Riley was a son of Maj. Riley, of Connecticut, and Mrs. Riley was a daughter of Loren Dodge. To Mr. and Mrs. Riley a family of six children were born, of whom James O. was the second, five of the family being now alive. The father, who was a carpenter by trade, died in October, 1883, his wife dying in the month of January, 1887. When the subject of this sketch was eight years old his parents removed to Corning, Steuben County, N. Y., where his youth was spent. He learned the carpenter's trade under his father, and followed this calling for a number of years. At the age of seventeen he went to Tioga, Pa., from which place, about one year later, or in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, remaining with this company until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Hilton Head, Fredericksburg, South Mountain and Antietam, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Petersburg and Jackson, in all of which he discharged his duties in a very creditable manner. From the war he returned to Tioga, Pa., but shortly after removed to Hornellsville, N. Y., where he resided two years, employed in the repair shops of the New York & Erie Railroad. In 1868 he removed to Afton, Iowa, but after conducting a meat market there for one year he returned to York State and learned the painter's trade while a resident of Wellsville. In 1872 he again came West, and this time settled in the State of Nebraska, residing one year in Lincoln, a short time in Harvard, and then took up a homestead claim fourteen miles northwest of Harvard, in

Hamilton County, where he resided seven years, giving his attention to farming. Upon returning to Harvard, in 1881, he engaged in the grocery business, which occupation has since received his attention. His establishment is one of the leading groceries of the place, and he commands a large share of public favor. He was married in Tioga County, Pa., August 16, 1860, to Miss Maggie L. Keeney, a daughter of Jesse and Sophronia M. (McArthur) Keeney, the former a native of Schenectady County, N. Y., born June 17, 1807, and the latter born in Vermont, September 21, 1811. The father of Mrs. Riley was the son of Thomas and Anna (Parshall) Keeney, and the mother was a daughter of Alexander and Rebecca (Wares) McArthur. Her parents were married in 1830, and had ten children, of whom she was the sixth, nine being now alive. The father died April 17, 1879, but the mother is still living, her home being in Mason City, Custer County, Neb. Mr. Riley is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the 32°, and he is also a member of the G. A. R., the K. of P. and the A. O. U. W., being also a member of the Select Knights in the last named order. He has always been a staunch member of the Republican party, is an honorable, upright man, and is one of Clay County's very best citizens. He possesses an extensive acquaintance, and by all who know him he is highly esteemed and respected.

John C. Ringer, farmer and stock-raiser, Lone Tree Township. Mr. Ringer was born in Darke County, Ohio, February 10, 1851, a son of John and Mary (Hendricks) Ringer, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. His parents moved to McDonough County, Ill., when he was but five years of age, and here he grew to manhood and received a common-school education. He remained in Illinois until his twenty-third year, when he moved to the county of his birth, in Ohio, and remained there for five years. In the fall of 1879 he started for Crawford County, Iowa, getting there September 16, when he purchased eighty acres of land and followed his chosen occupation of farming. In 1884 he moved to this county, where he has ever since remained. In 1887 he purchased

100 acres of land in Section 17, and has carried on farming, meeting with varied success, ever since. He was married, February 16, 1873, to Josephine, daughter of Peter and Susannah (Crower) Michael, natives of Ohio, born July 19, 1852, in Darke County, Ohio. They are the parents of three children, namely: Elmer (born February 18, 1874), Ross (born January 22, 1879), and Roy (born May 16, 1884). Mr. Ringer has been a life-long Democrat, but is now an Anti-Monopolist. He is a member of the Lone Tree Alliance, also of the County Alliance, of which he is door-keeper, and is assisting in the great move being made by the farmers in ridding themselves of the moneyed yoke that has kept them so long in the rear. He is a representative citizen, is industrious, and is getting a start toward laying up a comfortable competency to secure his comfort in old age.

Samuel M. Risley, liveryman, Harvard, Neb. Mr. Risley is not only one of the old settlers and most respected citizens of Clay County, but he is one of the prominent business men of the town of Harvard. He owes his nativity to Susquehanna County, Pa., where his birth occurred May 10, 1843, and is the son of Samuel and Betsey (Cook) Risley, natives of Pennsylvania. The parents are now residents of Lee County, Ill., to which county the family removed in the fall of 1856 from their native State. Samuel M. Risley's boyhood was spent on a farm in Pennsylvania until thirteen years of age and he then removed with his parents to Lee County, Ill. On May 14, 1864, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Fortieth Illinois Infantry for 100 days, and March 2, 1865, he re-enlisted in Company E, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, serving until the close of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He then returned to Illinois, remained on a farm until 1873, when he came to Harvard, and on May 8, of that year, engaged in the livery business, which he has since successfully conducted. He was burned out October 28, 1887, losing ten good horses and nearly all of his livery stock. Again, July 31, 1888, he was burned out. He was married, December 5, 1869, to Miss Mary A. Wilbur, who died in Harvard, May 31, 1881, leaving four children: Harry M., Kittie E., Charles

D. and William E. Mr. Risley's second marriage occurred June 19, 1883, to Miss Charlotte Fuller, a native of Knox County, Ill. Mr. Risley is one of the oldest settlers in Clay County and is a man who has the confidence and respect of all acquainted with him. In politics he is a Republican, and socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 70, and the G. A. R.

John H. Robertson, farmer and stock-raiser, Harvard, Neb. The name which appears above will at once be recognized by nearly all of those of this community, for it is borne by a man intimately associated with the farming and stock-raising interests of Clay County. Mr. Robertson was born in Washington County, N. Y., on October 12, 1839, and is the son of Lewis and Jane (Reynolds) Robertson, and grandson of Nathaniel and Mary (Randall) Robertson, probably born in Vermont about 1785, and of Scotch descent. Lewis Robertson was born about 1812, and immigrated to Wisconsin with his family in 1842, locating in Kenosha County, where Mrs. Robertson still resides. The father died in 1884. John H. Robertson began his career in 1859 as a farmer, and in 1862 was married to Miss Mary C. Coon, of Wisconsin, and the daughter of Sylvester and Catharine (Eycleshymer) Coon, who were the descendants of the early pioneers of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson became the parents of the following children: Oliver (born September 19, 1862), Jane A. (born May 13, 1864), Franklin (born August 11, 1867), Archie (born May 16, 1870), Susie (born November 22, 1872), John (born October 7, 1876), Lewis (born November 14, 1878), Arthur (born September 10, 1880), Eva (born August 8, 1882), and Lizzie (born April 8, 1886, and died June 28, 1886). Mr. Robertson enlisted in the United States army on February 4, 1864, in Company I, Thirty-fifth Regiment of Wisconsin Infantry, and was discharged on March 15, 1866, at Madison, Wis. He went direct from Milwaukee on March 22, 1864, and landed in New Orleans; later the army was then ordered back to Port Hudson, lay there six weeks, and buried 560 men. From there they went to Morganzie Bend, lay there until about July 1, and then marched up Schafali River, and here were in some sharp

skirmishes with bushwhackers. About ten days later they crossed the river and chased the bushwhackers, but then returned to Morganzie Bend, which place they left soon after to go to St. Charles on the Red River in Arkansas. There they remained one month, and then went to Devall's Bluff, Ark., where they went into winter quarters. In February they went to New Orleans and went into camp at Lake Ponchartrain. From there they went to Fort Morgan, thence to Mobile, Ala., by land, going through the pine swamps, and being thirteen days and nights in making the trip. They besieged Spanish Fort, Ala., for thirteen days and captured it, taking 1,400 prisoners. They lost 16,000 at that place. They then returned to Mobile City, and later crossed Tombigbee River, where they captured a fleet of twenty-two vessels. From Mobile they were transferred to Texas Landing, on Brazos Island, to Brownsville, where they remained until mustered out of service. Mr. Robertson came to Nebraska in the spring of 1878, bought 160 acres of land, which he has now well fenced, well improved, and on which he has good buildings. A school-house is on his place. He is a member of Richardson Post No. 60, G. A. R., at Harvard, and is a Republican in politics. He has made all of his property since coming to Nebraska, a fact that speaks volumes for his energy and perseverance. Living as he does in Harvard school district, his family have the advantages of a good high school. He has a good young orchard and plenty of forest trees on his place.

Dr. Ferdinand W. Rose is one of the skillful and eminently successful physicians and surgeons of Harvard, Clay County, Neb., and has attained an enviable position among the medical brethren throughout the surrounding country. He was born in Jackson County, Ohio, September 20, 1852, and was a son of Horace P. and Margaret (Stephenson) Rose, the former of whom was born in Greenbrier County, Va., and the latter in Jackson County, Ohio. Horace P. Rose was a son of Charles and Francina (Harless) Rose, who were born in the Highlands of Scotland, and near Barcelona, Spain, respectively. The maternal grandparents were John and Mary (Shumate) Stephen-

son, the former a native of the Highlands of Scotland also, and the latter of Wales. John Stephenson's mother bore the name of Helen Cameron, and was a direct descendant from Lochiel, chief of the Camerons, who was killed at the battle of Culoden. The parents of Dr. Rose were married in Jackson County, Ohio, March 16, 1851, and became the parents of eleven children, five sons and four daughters being now alive, of whom our subject is the eldest. The father of these children was a farmer by occupation, and resided in Jackson County, Ohio, until his death, May 4, 1886, his widow still surviving him, her home being in that county. The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood on the old home farm, in his native county, and his winters were devoted to attending the district schools near his home, and his summers to following the plow. At nineteen years of age he, as a temporary pursuit, took up the avocation of school-teaching, and his labors at this calling were performed in Ross County, Ohio. In the spring of 1875 he entered the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, which he attended during the spring term, but during the winter of that year, and in 1876, he taught another term of school, as a means of defraying his expenses in college. In the spring of 1876 he returned to the medical college at Cincinnati, and, after taking a second course of lectures, he graduated June 27, 1876. He at once entered upon the practice of his profession at Sharonville, Pike County, Ohio, but in April, 1877, he removed to Bowersville, Greene County, Ohio, where he devoted himself to the active practice of his profession for a period of nine years. In 1886 he came west and located in Harvard, Neb., where he has since made his home, and where he is one of the leading physicians. He was married August 6, 1873, to Miss Hannah McKinniss, of Alma, Ross County, Ohio. She was born in Pike County, being a daughter of William and Lydia (Slane) McKinniss, the former of whom died when Mrs. Rose was a small child. The mother is still living, her home being in Sharonville, Pike County, Ohio. Dr. Rose and his wife have a family of four children: Raymond I. (born June 27, 1874), Horace (June 10, 1877), Edgar E.

(June 30, 1879), Leon C. (September 20, 1884, and died March 25, 1889). Socially the Doctor is a member of the I. O. O. F., the I. O. R. M., the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A. He is a devoted member of the Republican party, and takes an active part in local politics, doing all he can to promote the welfare of his party. He is not only an active and effective worker in the private councils of his party, but he has also won for himself a reputation as an eloquent and forcible stump speaker. As a physician he has been very successful, and he now ranks among the ablest practitioners in this part of the State, and is a very sociable, agreeable and popular gentleman.

William Rousey, farmer and stockman of Clay County, Neb., is a man of marked character and more than ordinary prominence in the material affairs of the county, and his personal popularity results largely from the industry, perseverance and close attention to business which he has displayed in the management of his affairs. He was born in Morgan County, Ill., November 20, 1836, and is a son of William and Margaret (Story) Rousey, who were native Virginians, and moved to the State of Illinois about 1828, having farmed in Tennessee for a few years. They made a farm in Morgan County, Ill., and there resided until the father's death, which occurred in 1837, his wife surviving him until 1884, when she passed from life in Clay County, Neb. They reared a family, consisting of four sons and one daughter, to maturity, and all are now living and are the heads of families. William Rousey was the youngest of the family, and after attaining manhood he settled on a farm in Morgan County, continuing until he came to Nebraska, in 1879, taking up his abode on the farm where he now lives, which then consisted of raw land amounting to 160 acres. He has a substantial one and one-half story residence, a good barn and other outbuildings, and an excellent young bearing orchard of select fruits and a young grove. Mr. Rousey is a staunch Prohibitionist, and does all in his power to further the cause of temperance, although he was formerly a Republican in his political views. In the fall of 1889 he was elected one of the board of supervisors of Clay County,

and nearly ever since coming to the State of Nebraska he has been a member of his local school board. He was married in Morgan County, Ill., on November 12, 1857, to Miss Jane, a daughter of Alexander and Polly (Wright) Gunn, she being born, reared and educated in Morgan County. To them a family of six children have been born: Harvey (married, and residing in Edgar), Eli, Benjamin, James, Edward and Bertha. Mr. and Mrs. Rousey are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a Master Mason and a member of the Farmers' Alliance. By industry and determination he has become a representative agriculturist of the county, and ranks high in the community in which he resides as a man and citizen.

Harry E. Rowland, farmer and stockman, Davenport, Neb. Among the many successful tillers of the soil in Clay County, none are more deserving of mention than the subject of this sketch, who owes his nativity to Illinois, his birth occurring in Ogle County, April 19, 1861. His father, B. F. Rowland, was a native of the Old Dominion, and when a young man went to Illinois. He settled in Ogle County, and was married in Carroll County, to Miss Mary E. Puterbaugh, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of George Puterbaugh, one of the pioneer settlers of Carroll County. Mr. Rowland followed farming in that county until his death, which occurred October 1, 1888. His wife survives him at this writing and resides on the old homestead. Harry E. Rowland was the fifth in order of birth of six children, all living, and five of whom are married. Two reside in Nebraska. He attained his growth in Ogle County, and remained with his father until his majority, receiving a good education in the common and high schools. After this he followed farming in Ogle County until 1885, when on February 21, of that year, he arrived in Clay County, Neb. He now has 160 acres of fine tillable land, all in a good state of cultivation, has a good residence, and substantial barns and outbuildings. He has out a young orchard of 100 apple trees, and has plenty of small fruit of all varieties. He was married in Ogle County, Ill., December 21, 1882, to Miss Mollie E. Bittinger,

a native of Maryland, but reared and educated in Illinois, and the daughter of George Bittinger, of Ogle County. There are two children by this marriage: Gracie and Ethel. Mr. Rowland is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and an honest, upright citizen.

A. R. Rudd is a proper representative of the prosperous business men of the county, and since February, 1887, he has been engaged in the mercantile business at Ong. He was one of the first to locate at this place, and his first stock of goods was quite small, but he increased it from time to time, and he is now occupying an excellent new store building which he built and into which he moved in March, 1889. Mr. Rudd carries a general stock of goods, large and well selected, and being intelligent, active and accommodating he has won a liberal share of public patronage. Mr. Rudd is a Republican in politics and has held to the principles and supported the men and measures of that party ever since he attained his majority. On March 10, 1889, he was appointed postmaster of Ong, and the office is held in his store. He has held other positions of trust, such as town clerk, and in all has discharged his duties in a highly satisfactory manner. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially is a member of the A. O. U. W. He was born in Sweden, October 3, 1865, but in 1869 emigrated with his parents to the United States, and after a short residence in York State they removed to Massachusetts, and in this State Mr. Rudd was principally reared and educated, although he took a course in the Galesburg Commercial College in 1887, just prior to his engaging in business in Ong, having come to this State in 1877. His parents, C. J. and Gustava C. Rudd, were both born in Sweden, and are now residing in Clay County, Neb.

Jonathan Sanderson, farmer and stockman, Ong, Clay County, Neb. Jonathan Sanderson was born in Yorkshire, England, December 5, 1837. His parents, Thomas and Frances (Bland) Sanderson, were natives of England, and with their family came to the United States in September, 1851. They located in Columbia County, Wis., where they were among the pioneer settlers,

and there the father tilled the soil until his death in 1880. His wife died soon after coming here. Thomas Sanderson was collector of government taxes and duties in England, for over twenty years, but resigned his office to come to America. Jonathan Sanderson remained with his father until after he became of age, then followed lumbering for about six years. In Dane County, Wis., in the fall of 1869, he was married to Miss Rebecca McCloughan, only daughter of William and Mary McCloughan. She was born in Summit County, Ohio, but her parents came to Wisconsin when she was a child. Jonathan Sanderson and wife have eight children, five boys and three girls; they are all at home. The eldest daughter is a school-teacher of Clay County. In the spring of 1872 he moved to Nebraska and homesteaded the farm where he now resides. His farm is located one and one-half miles from Ong, and consists of 240 acres of fine tillable land which is under a good state of cultivation. The place is well improved, having a large residence, good barns and every thing convenient. There is a good grove of twelve acres, besides a young orchard of 150 apple trees and small fruits and shrubs, which is beginning to bear; also about ten acres of native timber. In connection with agricultural pursuits Mr. Sanderson has been giving some attention to the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He began dealing in the former in 1874, at that time introducing that kind of cattle into the neighborhood. In 1878 he increased his stock, and now has about twenty head, all registered. These cattle are as fine animals as are to be found in the county, they having taken several premiums at the county fairs. Mr. Sanderson was one of the few who organized the Harvest Home in Logan Township. It resembles a fair and picnic and is kept up in the interest of the farmers. It is the only one in Clay County. In politics he is a Republican and always has been one. He has held the office of justice of the peace for two or more terms, and has been one of the school board nearly all the time, and has held other local offices. At present he is township clerk, and fills the office in a satisfactory manner. He and wife and eldest son and

daughter are members of the Farmers' Alliance, and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Ong.

David B. Sanborn. In enumerating the enterprising and progressive agriculturists and stockmen of Clay County Mr. Sanborn must not be overlooked, for he is in every respect a self-made man, and has slowly but surely climbed the ladder of success until he is now acknowledged to be one of the leading men of the county. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., October 24, 1836, his parents, John T. and Susanna (Hubbard) Sanborn, being natives of New Hampshire and New York, respectively. After attaining manhood the father went to York State and was there married and made his home until 1840, at which time he removed to McHenry County, Ill., reaching the latter State in March, 1841. Here Mr. Sanborn resided until his death, which occurred in November, 1855, his wife dying in February, 1877. Their family, consisting of four sons and five daughters, grew to mature years, and three sons and two daughters are living at the present time. David B. Sanborn spent his youth and early manhood in Henry County, Ill., and in the month of March, 1864, enlisted from there in the Union army, taking his brother's place in Company A, after it had been consolidated with Company E, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war, proving a faithful and trusty soldier. He was taken prisoner after the fall of Atlanta and was kept a prisoner for six months, four months being spent in Andersonville. While a prisoner he made his escape, but was run down, shot and recaptured. Upon receiving his discharge he returned to his home in McHenry County, and after being engaged in farming until 1871, went to Chicago, and was driver for a street railway company there for about three years. In 1874 he came to Nebraska and the same year purchased the farm where he is now residing, twenty-five acres being at that time under cultivation. At different times since he has made purchases of land, and is now the owner of 246 acres, nearly all of which is under wire fence and is a fine body of land. Near his residence is an orchard of about 200 trees, and his buildings are

all in good condition. He has always been a Republican in politics, is a member of the G. A. R. organization, and he has held some local positions of honor and trust in the county. He was married in McHenry County, Ill., November 1, 1876, to Miss Anna L. Wiltshire, a native of Ohio, but reared in Illinois, a daughter of George Wiltshire, a native of England. Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn are the parents of the following children: Frank J., Charles D., George A. and John A., the last two named being twins.

Louis H. Schaaf. Nothing so markedly shows the strength and prosperity of a community as the number of large concerns engaged in handling the staple necessities of life, and prominent among these may be mentioned the grocery establishment belonging to Mr. Schaaf. He was born in Jerseyville, Ill., July 12, 1857, and is a son of Henry and Sabra (Bingham) Schaaf, who were born in Germany and New York State in 1832 and 1836, respectively. The Schaafs were early residents of Illinois, and the grandfather was one of the first millers and built the first mill in Jersey County. Henry Schaaf died in St. Mary's, Mo., in 1858, but his wife is still living, and is a resident of Edgar, Neb. Louis H. Schaaf was the younger of two children and was reared in Illinois, there receiving his educational advantages, which were only such as the common schools afforded. In 1878 he came to Clay County, Neb., and after being engaged in farming near Edgar for two years he began clerking, this occupation receiving his attention for three years. He then opened a grocery establishment at Edgar, continuing alone for about a year and a half, and then became associated in the same business with George H. Van Antwerp, their partnership lasting until April, 1889, when Mr. Schaaf sold out to William Westering, and on June 15, 1889, he opened his present establishment at Sutton. Although he has been established here a very short time he has built up a trade and founded a reputation which ranks him in every way but in age with the oldest houses of the county. He has made his own way in the world, and is now a leading business man and a highly esteemed resident of the county. He was married on April

1, 1872 to Miss Louisa Keller, who was born near Chicago, Ill., in 1863. They have two children: Leslie and an infant unnamed. Mr. Schaaf is an uncompromising Republican, and socially is a member of the A. O. U. W., a charter member of Edgar Lodge No. 50. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church.

J. H. C. Scherich, farmer and stockman, Inland, Neb. The estate which is owned by the subject of this sketch is one of the finest in Clay County, and it is but the repetition of a truth well known to say that no man is more deserving of the possessions which he enjoys than Mr. Scherich. He was born in York County, Pa., in 1842, but was reared near Harrisburg, Cumberland County, and was the fifth of a family of seven children, the result of the union of John and Rachel (Millard) Scherich, both natives of Pennsylvania, and the latter the daughter of Isaac Millard, of York County, Pa. John Scherich was a native of Lancaster County, his birth occurring in 1812, and was married in York County, Pa., to Miss Millard, who bore him the following children: Christian, Ann Jane, John A., Phoebe S., J. H. C., Rachel E. and Winfield. The father was a farmer by occupation, and also carried on the carpenter trade. He died in Pennsylvania in 1885. The mother was born in 1814 and is still living in the Keystone State. Both were members of the United Brethren Church. J. H. C. Scherich received a good practical education in his native State, and in 1864 enlisted in Company F, Two Hundred and First Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served one year, or until the surrender. He was discharged in the fall of 1865. In the last named year he was married to Miss Margaret R. Kerr, a native of Fulton County, Pa., born in 1842, and the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Blair) Kerr. Mr. Kerr died in 1854 but his wife, who was born in 1822, is now living and is a resident of Inland, Neb. After his marriage Mr. Scherich engaged in cultivating the soil, and in the spring of 1872 emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he took up 160 acres of land, where he now lives, and to this he has since added eighty more acres. He has improved the same and is one of the substantial

farmers of the county. He is interested in the raising of stock, Hereford cattle, Poland-China hogs and Normau and Clydesdale horses. He has a good orchard and a nice grove on his place. Being one of the pioneers he has seen the complete growth and development of the county, and has aided in all matters pertaining to its general good. To his marriage were born eight children: Annetta (now Mrs. Charles Kelley, of Inland), Harry E., John F., Asher E., Carrie O., Minnie M., Clarence R. and Millard B., all at home. Mr. Scherich is considerably interested in political affairs and votes with the Republican party. He likes Nebraska, and thinks it a fine State for farming and stock raising. He is interested in schools and churches, and has been a member of the school board.

John Schlachter, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. Mr. Schlachter is another of those of foreign birth who have come into this county and made for themselves comfortable homes, becoming respected citizens of the community. He was born in Norden, Germany, in 1841, and is the fourth in a family of eight children, the result of the union of Robert H. and Sarah (Harmes) Schlachter, who were married in 1838. Both parents were natives of Germany, and the father was born in 1803. He was a ship carpenter by trade and followed the sea much of his life. He emigrated to the United States in 1851, settled in Peoria County, Ill., and there made his home for eight years, after which he moved to Woodford County, dying there in 1880. He was a successful business man, and in his political views affiliated with the Republican party. He was the son of Henry Schlachter. The mother of our subject was the daughter of H. Harmes, a native of Germany. She died in 1886. Both she and her husband were members of the Lutheran Church. They reared the following children: Henry, Hero, Mary, John, Dina, Lena, Charles and Robert. John Schlachter was about ten years of age when he came to this country with his parents, and attended school in Illinois. In 1862 he started out for himself as a farmer, and this occupation he has continued to follow successfully since. He was married, in

1865, to Miss Louisa Kampmann, daughter of Caspar and Lizzie (Thake) Kampmann, both natives of Germany. Her parents came to the United States, settled in New York in 1851, and later came to Illinois. There they both received their final summons in 1885. Mr. Schlachter farmed in Illinois until 1880, when he moved to Nebraska and settled on his present property in Inland Township, Clay County. He bought at that time 160 acres, and now has a half section of good land, all improved, with a fine orchard, groves, and excellent buildings. He is also interested in stock-raising and has some fine hogs and cattle. He has been successful since coming to this State, and fully appreciates the comforts of a compensation gained by individual efforts. To his marriage have been born ten living children: Robert H., Lizzie (now Mrs. Myer), Louis William, Clara, Mary, Sarah, Ida, Louisa, Flora and Ella. Two children, Martha and Henry, are deceased. In politics Mr. Schlachter is a decided Republican.

Ludwig Schuck, retired farmer, Glenville, Neb. Of German birth and antecedents, Mr. Schuck possesses to a remarkable degree the qualities which seem to characterize those of German descent—frugality, industry, perseverance and strict attention to business. His parents, Adam and Catharine (Kuntz) Schuck, were natives of the same country and were people of like habits. The father was a weaver by trade. Ludwig Schuck was born in Germany, in 1822, and was the sixth of eight children born to his parents: Barbara, John, George, Eva, Charles, Ludwig, Henry and Christina. The father of these children died in Germany in 1837, and the mother in 1851. Ludwig's early life and school days were spent in Germany. In 1849 he emigrated to the United States, settled in Boston for a few months, and then, in 1850, emigrated to Illinois, where he followed farming in Woodford County. He was married in Marshall County, Ill., in 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Mick, a native of Germany, and the daughter of Frederick and Barbara Mick, also natives of that country. The father died in Germany, but the mother died in Illinois in 1874, having emigrated to this country in 1822. To the marriage of Mr. and

Mrs. Schuck were born seven children (four now living): Mary A., Catherine (died in 1862), Clara E., Jacob, Margaret, Henry (died in 1876) and Frederick (died in 1878). Mr. Schuck came to Clay County, Neb., in 1875, bought 320 acres of railroad land, and to this he has since added 160 acres, making one of the best farms in the township. He has his land well improved, and is a prominent and much-esteemed citizen. He and Mrs. Schuck are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Schuck takes quite an interest in political affairs, and is a Democrat. He is interested in schools, churches, and all things for the good of the county. His son, Jacob, is farming for himself on Section 29, land owned by his father, and the latter is now retired from active life.

Charles Schuck, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Located in the midst of one of the finest agricultural centers of Clay County, the farm which Mr. Schuck now owns and occupies is conceded to be among the best in this vicinity, and this is saying not a little, for on every hand may be seen superior places whose ownership indicate thrift and prosperity. He was born in Germany in 1844, and is the son of John and Margaret (Shwager) Schuck, both natives of Germany, the father born in 1815. He was a stone-mason by trade, and followed this for many years. To his marriage were born three children: Charles, Maggie and Katie. The father died at the age of sixty-four, and the mother, who was born in 1817, followed him to the grave two years later. Charles Schuck attended school in his native country, and in 1866 emigrated to the United States, locating in Woodford County, Ill., where he followed farming. This he continued for about eight years, and in 1869 was married to Miss Mary Newman, who died during the first year of their married life. He was married again in 1871 to Miss Katie Engel, who died in 1876, leaving him one child, Lizzie. Mr. Schuck emigrated to Nebraska in 1875 and bought railroad land, 160 acres in all. His third marriage occurred in this State to Miss Augusta Fiteke, of Clay County, and to them have been born seven children: Anna, Ida, Louisa, John, Mary, Etta and Charles. Mr. Schuck began im-

mediately to improve his land, and the same systematic condition of affairs about his home is apparent in his course as a man. Thorough in all that he does, he allows no worthy movement to drag for want of support if in his power to help it. He is now the owner of 240 acres of land, all under cultivation and fenced, and has one of the finest places in the county. In 1882 he was constable of Inland Township, and was also school director. After this he was assessor for three years, and has been supervisor of Inland Township. Formerly he had always voted the Republican ticket, but he is now a Democrat. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are members of the German Congregational Church, which he assisted in organizing. He is deeply interested in the upbuilding of schools and churches.

George P. Schwab, treasurer of Marshall Township, and one of Clay County's most successful and enterprising citizens, is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, born April 23, 1835, a son of John Henry and Margaret (Kuhl) Schwab, natives of the same country. The subject of this sketch came to the United States with his parents in 1847, the father locating in Lee County, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his life, and there George P. was reared to manhood on a farm, securing a very limited education. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming for himself, and two years later settled on a farm in Bureau County until March, 1880, when he came to Clay County, buying land in Marshall Township, near where he now lives, and the following fall built his present house and bought the farm, it being the north half of Section 10. His house and barns are probably the best in the township. Mr. Schwab owns altogether 1,280 acres of land in Marshall Township, and the school district in which he lives. He is the most extensive stock-raiser in the township, having a number of fine specimens of graded cattle and horses, being one of the first in this line in the township. February 7, 1858, he married Miss Katherine Keiper, a native of Germany, born April 13, 1840, by whom he has thirteen children, namely: Henry G. (born December 10, 1858), Conrad (born October 7, 1860), Mary M. (born November 4, 1862,

wife of John Anthes), John G. (born February 11, 1865), Phillip J. (born May 20, 1867), Albert H. (born August 18, 1869), William F. (born November 26, 1871), Carl F. (born February 17, 1874, died November 3, 1887), George W. (born June 27, 1876), Daniel H. (born December 17, 1878), Josephine F. (born April 13, 1881), Malinda M. (born September 12, 1883), Benjamin T. (born August 23, 1886). Mr. Schwab has been a Republican since 1856, but is now an ally of the Anti-Monopolists, being an active member of the Farmers' Alliance, and president of Marshall Alliance. Both he and wife are members of the Evangelical Church.

Frank H. Scott is a prominent young grocer of Harvard, Clay County, Neb., and is a striking example of the success which usually attends hard work and honest dealing. His birth occurred in Cowansville, in the province of Quebec, Canada, October 27, 1866, and is a son of Plinny and Candace V. (Beard) Scott, who were also born in Cowansville, the former May 31, 1836. He was a son of Plinny and Lydia (Bull) Scott, who were born in the State of Vermont. The wife of Plinny Scott was born October 19, 1839, and was a daughter of Oliver and Hannah (Clark) Beard, who were natives of the State of New Hampshire. The parents of Frank H. Scott were married near Cowansville, Canada, October 27, 1858, and reared a family of three children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest, he and a brother and sister being the members of the family: Albert P., Lucia L. and Frank H. The mother of these children died at Harvard, Neb., November 22, 1888. The father, whose occupation has been that of a contractor and builder, is still living, his home being in Harvard, where he located with his family in 1880. Frank H. Scott was reared to manhood in his native town, and received his early education in Missisquoi High School of Cowansville. At the age of fourteen years he accompanied his parents to Harvard, Neb., where he has resided ever since, and in that place he is now one of the leading business men. He first entered the employ of the Gilchrist Brothers, clerking in their grocery store for six consecutive years, engaging, on November 1, 1886, in business

for himself, and has given it his entire attention ever since, being at the present time a prosperous merchant. He sells his goods at little money, and has deservedly acquired a comfortable competency, for his start in business was obtained by saving his money while clerking. His stock of goods will invoice at \$8,000, and he does an annual business of between \$35,000 and \$40,000. He is also the owner of valuable real-estate, consisting of seventeen lots, three of which are improved with residences. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, and he also belongs to the K. of P. and the M. W. A. In his political views he is a Democrat. He is an enterprising young man, whose business qualifications are of a very high order, and he has a large circle of friends, among whom he is very popular.

C. H. Searle. For something over seven years Mr. Searle has been identified with the interests of Clay County, Neb., contributing in many ways to its advancement and progress, especially as regards stock-raising and agriculture. As a breeder of fine stock he is well known throughout the Middle and Western States. He has devoted his attention to the breeding of Holstein cattle, Duroc Jersey and Poland China swine. The foundation of his fine herd of Holsteins was purchased from the celebrated "Shadeland Stock Farm," owned by Powell Bros., at Springboro, Pa., and by careful breeding he has built up a herd of exceptional merit. He already has a fine display of ribbons won on his cattle at the Omaha and Lincoln fairs. He also has as fine a herd of swine, both in number and quality, as can be found in the State. He is the owner of the noted hog Derby, said to be the largest hog in the United States, also many other animals which have been prize winners at such fairs as Kansas City, St. Louis and St. Joseph, as well as Omaha and Lincoln. There is probably no man in the State more extensively engaged in fine stock breeding than he, and his example has served as an impulse to others to follow him in this industry, and to him, therefore, is largely due the credit for so many classes of fine stock in Clay County to-day. He is an active member of the Clay County Agricultural Society, and was in 1889 made a director

of the "American Duroc Jersey Swine Breeder's Association," at its convention in Chicago, an honor which came to him unsought. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that he is a man of energy, progressive spirit, and clear perception, unassuming in his manners and liberal in his contributions to worthy enterprises, and when we add that he is an earnest worker in the Presbyterian Church, in which he is an elder, enough has been said to show his worth in any community. He was born in West Andover, Ashtabula County, Ohio, February 16, 1856, being the second son of S. E. Searle, a native of the old "Bay State." C. H. Searle was educated in his native State, graduating from Grand River Institute in 1878, afterward pursuing a special course at Oberlin College. He was married in Madison, Lake County, Ohio, in 1881, to Miss Carrie Ford, a native of Lake County, and daughter of Deacon James Ford, of Madison. Mrs. Searle also graduated at Grand River Institute, in the same class with Mr. Searle, afterward studying at Oberlin. Their family consists of four children: Ralph H., Albert A., Ida A. and Carl C.

Marcellus Sechler is one of the well-known and esteemed farmers and stockmen of Clay County, Neb., and since 1883 has resided on his present farm, although during the year 1879 he had resided here for a short time. He was born in Somerset County, Pa., in April, 1855, his parents, Joseph and Eleanor (Rhodes) Sechler, being also natives of that State. The father was a farmer and cooper by trade, and resided in Pennsylvania until his death, which occurred in 1865, his wife having died in 1857. Marcellus Sechler attained manhood in his native county, but imbued with the idea that the West afforded better opportunities for a young man, he came to Illinois, and for one year was a resident of Carroll County. In 1879 he settled in Clay County, Neb., but returned to Pennsylvania three years later, and was married there on July 29, 1883, to Miss Minnie Shannon, a native of Somerset County, and a daughter of Aaron Shannon, of that county. Mr. Sechler again came to Nebraska in the fall of 1882, and has been residing on the old Johnson farm for the past six years, it comprising 160 acres,

owned by Howard Brothers. Mr. Sechler has been successful in his enterprises and is now in easy circumstances. He and wife have two children: Harry and Harvey; Ella, a daughter, died recently, aged about twenty months. Mr. Sechler is a member of the A. O. U. W. and the Farmers' Alliance, being one of the executive committee in the last named order.

Guy W. Secord was born near London, Canada, on July 29, 1855, being a son of Steven A. and Ruth (Rouse) Secord, who were also born there. In 1856 the family moved to the States and settled in Jo Daviess County, Ill., where the father followed the occupation of lead miner. He was drowned on December 24, 1860, while crossing the Apple River, and fourteen years later his wife's death occurred. Thus left to depend upon his own resources at the early age of seven years, Guy W. began working out among the neighbors in the vicinity, receiving his board and clothes for the first two years, after which he began receiving small wages. His early educational advantages were quite limited, but the advantages he did receive were improved to the utmost, and possessing a quick perception and a good memory he made good progress in his studies. After remaining in the State of Illinois until 1870, he went to Page County, Iowa, working on farms at intervals, and spending a portion of his time in Kansas until 1885, when he came to the fertile prairies of Nebraska and purchased 160 acres of land in Clay County, which comprises his present farm. He deserves much credit for the admirable way in which he has surmounted the difficulties which have strewn his pathway through life, and by his own labor and good management he has secured a handsome competency, and is now one of the representative farmers of the county. He has always been of a charitable disposition, and has ever been found ready to extend the right hand of fellowship to those not so fortunate as himself. On January 12, 1881, he was married to Miss Sylvia Rodman, a daughter of Antrim and Frances (Hadden) Rodman, natives of the "Hoosier State." Mrs. Secord was born in Page County, Iowa, February 3, 1857, and her union with Mr. Secord has resulted

in the birth of four children: Mand E., Roscoe C., Katie M. and Charles W. Mr. Secord has always been a Republican, somewhat favoring the Anti-Monopoly movement. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

T. D. Shaw is the owner of 433 acres of land in Clay County, Neb., his first purchase of 160 acres being made the first year of his arrival here, 1870. He was born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1848, and his school days were spent in Illinois, whither his parents moved from Ohio about 1855. He began the battle of life for himself at the age of twenty-two years, and in 1869 was united in marriage to Miss Maggie, a daughter of Moses and Harriet (Elliott) Johnson, who were born in Pennsylvania. This union resulted in the birth of three children: Lewis M., Jennie and James, all of whom reside with their father. Mr. Shaw has a very high opinion of Nebraska as a farming region, and in a period of nineteen years has lost but one crop. His farm is also well adapted to stock-raising, and Mr. Shaw has now an excellent grade of Short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. On first coming here Mr. Shaw received his mail at a town fifty miles away, and was compelled to go ninety-five miles (to Beatrice) for his provisions. He is the second child born to Lewis and Margaret (Downing) Shaw, both Ohio people. They were married when the father was nineteen years of age, and their union was blessed in the birth of ten children: John (now living in Logan County, Ill.), T. D., William (who died at the age of five years), Dorcas (Mrs. Shout, living in Illinois), Sarah (Mrs. Bridges, also residing in Illinois), George (who was killed by the cars at the age of thirteen), Elizabeth (who died from being burned when nine years old), Emma (who died at the age of twenty-two years), Nancy (who died at the age of five years) and James (living in Illinois). Both parents are living, and reside in Logan County, Ill., the former a Free Mason socially, and politically a Democrat.

Thomas Shea, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. Thomas Shea first saw the light of day in the Emerald Isle in 1836, and was the youngest of twelve children, the fruits of the union of Thomas and Ellen (Shea) Shea, natives also of Ireland.

They were married there, and of their large family only our subject is now living. Shortly after the birth of the latter his parents emigrated to the United States, and settled in Putnam County, Ill., where the father worked on the canal. He died in La Salle County, Ill., in 1846, and his wife previous to this, in the same county, in 1842. Thomas Shea was left an orphan when about ten years of age, and he started out for himself by working on the railroad for a number of years. He was married in La Salle County, Ill., in 1857, to Miss Ellen Halleran, daughter of Michael Halleran, and to them were born nine children: Thomas, Michael, Patrick, John, James, Joseph and William; two deceased, Mary and Ellen. Mr. Shea settled in Livingston County, Ill., in 1862, and there tilled the soil for twelve years. He then emigrated to Old Inland, Adams County, Neb., in 1873, bought railroad land, and moved his family there in the fall of that year. He bought a section of land in Clay County, but sold 160 acres, and bought the same number of acres in Wheeler County. Ever since locating in Clay County Mr. Shea has been engaged in farming and stock-raising, and owing to hard work and good business ability he has been very successful. He is a Democrat in politics, and he and family are members of the Catholic Church. He is interested in schools, churches, and in fact every and all enterprises for the good of the county. He is one of the pioneer settlers, and a man universally respected.

Michael Sheedy, farmer and stock-raiser. Mr. Sheedy is an Irish-American and a farmer, and that is enough to carry the assurance that he is one of the substantial men of Lewis Township, where he resides. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, March 25, 1823, and is the son of John and Margaret (Fitzpatrick) Sheedy, both natives of the Emerald Isle, the father born in 1790, and the mother in 1805. The father was reared in his native country, and in 1848 emigrated to America, settling first in Rockport, Mass., but in 1854 emigrating to Iowa, where his death occurred in Clinton County in 1855. He was a large man and weighed 208 pounds. The mother died Jan-

uary 8, 1885. They were the parents of twelve children, four sons and two daughters now living. One son, John Sheedy, resides in Lincoln, Neb., is a large property owner, and his monthly rents come to \$356. Another son, Patrick, is a farmer and owns 160 acres in Clay County. Dennis is in Denver City, and is president of the Colorado National Bank, worth close to \$1,000,000. Michael Sheedy was married in Rockport, Mass., in 1850, to Miss Johanna Calahan, a native of County Limerick, Ireland, born in 1832, who came to America in 1849. Eleven children were the fruits of this union, nine of whom are now living: David, Margaret, John (deceased), William (merchant in Yuma, Colo.), James (also in Yuma, Colo.), Anna, and Ella, (the wife of F. Reed, a banker of Yuma), John (at home), Dennis (attending college in Lincoln), Michael (deceased), and May (going to Harvard High School). Mr. Sheedy came to America in 1876, lived at Rockport for some time, and after his marriage in 1850 went to South Carolina, where he resided in Charleston for two years. He then moved to Illinois, was on the railroad, and later moved to Iowa, where he continued his former employment. Ten years later he moved to where the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was building, and worked on it until it came to the Missouri River. He was first boss, then walking boss, and later was head foreman for Wolfe & Carpenter at \$100 per month. He was then contractor with John Fitzgerald, of Lincoln, for some time. He contracted all the way to Nebraska, and upon reaching this State took up land, and has since made his home here. Michael Sheedy came to Nebraska in the year of 1871. At that time there was nothing to be seen but sky and prairie. He was the first man in this part of the county that fenced in forty acres for a pasture, with posts eight feet apart and four wires; this fence was built in 1872. He hauled his posts (1,000) from the Little Blue in Nuckolls County, a distance of thirty-five miles. He made the first wagon-road through where Fairfield is now located, and went through where Clay Center is also. It was used for seven or eight years as the main road to Fairfield. He still lives on the

same farm. Our subject is the owner of 320 acres, after selling 120 acres in Clay County, and also owns 120 acres in Kearney County. He is quite deeply interested in stock raising, and is one of the substantial farmers of the county. His paternal grandfather, Michael Sheedy, was born also in County Cork, Ireland, was a stock buyer and farmer, and a very wealthy man. Mrs. Sheedy, wife of our subject, was the daughter of David and Ann (Caey) Callahan, both natives of County Limerick, Ireland, where the father carried on farming. He died at the age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, and the only one now living is Mrs. Sheedy. She is a good sized woman, weighing 200 pounds, and Mr. Sheedy weighs 208 pounds. They are very comfortably fixed, and are happy and contented.

John Sheehy, farmer and stock-raiser, Glenville, Neb. The history of every community is made up, so far as its more interesting features are concerned, of the events and transactions of the lives of its prominent, representative citizens. In any worthy history of Clay County an outline of the life of the subject of this sketch should not fail to be given. Mr. Sheehy was born in County Limerick, Ireland, January 23, 1832, and is the oldest of six children, the result of the union of Patrick and Mary (Daune) Sheehy, both natives of the Emerald Isle, born in 1807 and 1808, respectively. The father died in 1847, and the mother in 1876. John Sheehy received a good education, and when but twenty-one years of age came to this country, landing in New York. He worked his way westward, and finally located in Rock Island, Ill., where he commenced learning the trade of brick-making. After continuing this for some time he went to Davenport, Iowa, and was there engaged in the manufacture of brick, which business he carried on on an extensive scale. In 1860 he moved to Helena, Ark., and remained there for two years, engaged in levee building. He quit contracting and accepted the position of foreman on the grade of the Iowa division of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad. Here he remained for eighteen months, when he took the position of

track foreman on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, which position he retained for seventeen years. In 1882 he removed to Clay County, Neb., from McDonough County, Ill., and is now the owner of 240 acres of good land, the result of years of economy and labor on the part of himself and his faithful wife. The farm is one of the best in the county, and is well stocked with horses and cattle. He was married in 1864 to Miss Catherine Normoyle, a native of Ireland, born in 1841, and the daughter of Edward and Mary (Brown) Normoyle, natives of Ireland, born in 1812 and 1822, and died in 1849 and 1880, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Sheehy were born eight living children: Mary (wife of R. L. Massey, of Grand Island), Patrick, Roger, Nellie, Katie, Edmund, Thomas, James and Agnes. Mr. Sheehy is a Democrat and has filled several town offices. Himself and family are members of the Catholic Church.

John O. Shelp, farmer, Harvard, Neb. This respected and highly esteemed resident of Harvard Township, is not unknown to the many citizens of this portion of Clay County, among whom so many years of his life have been passed. Originally from Montgomery County, N. Y., he was born in May, 1827, and is the son of Hugh Shelp. He was reared on a farm in his native county, and at the age of seventeen years he became a clerk in a grocery at Fort Plain, of Montgomery County. That position he held for five years and then went to Utica, N. Y., where for one year he was a clerk in a hotel. After that he went to Tonawanda, in the western part of New York State, and there he was employed for five years in a ship chandler's establishment. About 1859 he went to Allegan County, Mich., where, until the war broke out, he followed farming. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Forty-fourth Illinois Regiment, with which he served until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Pea Ridge, Murfreesboro, Perryville, the siege of Corinth and Chickamauga. He was captured at the last-named battle September 20, 1863, and was first imprisoned at Richmond. Six months later he was transferred to Andersonville, where he re-

mained thirteen months, making a total imprisonment of nineteen months. He was released on the same day Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. From Andersonville he went via Savannah, Ga., to Jacksonville, Fla., and thence he proceeded by vessel to Annapolis, Md. From there he went by rail to Springfield, Ill., where he was discharged June 30, 1865. After that he located in Iroquois County, Ill., and resumed farming. He was married there in March, 1866, to Miss Isabella Lower, a native of Huntingdon County, Pa., born in April, 1827. In 1867 Mr. Shelp returned to Allegan County, Mich., and in 1869 removed to La Porte, Ind., where for four years he followed the hardware business. He then came to Nebraska, and located in Fillmore County, where he tilled the soil. For the past eight years he has resided in Harvard, a retired citizen. He and wife have an only son, James L. Shelp, a young man of nineteen, who is a telegraph operator by profession. Mr. Shelp is a member of the Christian Church, the G. A. R., and is a Republican in politics. He is an honorable, upright man and a worthy and loyal citizen.

Henry O. Shike, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Linn County, Iowa, August 29, 1850, a son of John and Mary E. (Bodenhofer) Shike, natives of Virginia. He was reared to manhood in his native State. At the early age of twelve years he commenced the struggle of life, assisting in the care of his family. At the age of twenty-four he commenced farming on his own account. In 1875 he purchased a farm comprising 160 acres of land, on which he remained until 1880, when he moved to Washington Territory and took up government land, which he exchanged in 1882 for 160 acres of land adjoining his home-place in this county, moving here the following year. He now owns 320 acres, which is under an excellent state of cultivation (all fenced), a good, comfortable dwelling, large barn, granaries and shedding for his cattle, of which he keeps on hand about 250 head. March 11, 1875, he was married to Mary E. Walters, daughter of Myron C. and Maryett (Hall) Walters, natives of New York. Mrs. Shike was born July 16, 1855, in Jones

County, Iowa. The result of this union has been the birth of two children: Myron G. and Walter D. Mr. Shike is a Prohibitionist in politics; he was formerly a Republican. Both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Clay Center, and he is a member of the Harmony Farmers' Alliance. Mr. Shike has done wonderfully well since his residence in this county. He is largely interested in cattle, being one of the largest dealers and feeders in this section of the country. He is energetic, industrious and enterprising, always ready to assist his needy neighbors when in distress, and is looked upon as a representative citizen.

Jacob Shively, president of the First National Bank, Fairfield, Neb. Modern banking dates from the revival of civilization in Italy, first came into prominence in Venice, and was the main cause which made the Queen of the Adriatic the mistress of the world's commerce. The history of trade through these succeeding centuries has shown the bank to be the first and most important thing to give impetus to business. It is the lubricant of the engine of mercantile life, and when properly managed is also the governor and safety-valve. A fine example of this is seen in the First National Bank of Fairfield, of which Mr. Shively is president. He was born in Monongalia County, W. Va., June 9, 1837, and is the son of Jacob and Catherine (Pickenpaw) Shively, natives of the same county. Jacob Shively, Jr., was early taught the duties of farm life in his native State, and secured but a limited education, such as was accorded to the youth of ante-bellum days in the primitive log school-houses, where but three months' session was held in a year. He was there during the war and espoused the Union cause, being called into the service as a member of the State militia. In 1870 he emigrated to Henry County, Ill., and followed farming and stock-raising successfully until November, 1886, when he removed to Fairfield, and there he has since resided. Having given his attention to stock-raising and farming, he became the owner of 420 acres of good land in this county, and makes a specialty in the stock line of Polled-Angus cattle. He has been a stockholder of the

First National Bank of Fairfield for three years, was vice-president of the same during 1889, and in 1890 was elected its president. On January 9, 1862, he was married to Miss Emily J. Snider, a native of the same State and county. They have nine living children: Effie D. (wife of Charles Glaspie), Mary G. (wife of James Taylor), James R., Laura A. (wife of Henry Showalters), Fannie B., Thornton P., Lidia May, William Ray and Gertrude. Mr. Shively was formerly a Republican in politics, but since the temperance question has come so strongly before the public he has been a Prohibitionist in his political views, and was elected by that ticket in November, 1889, to the office of county supervisor to represent Fairfield City. He is a member of the Royal Templar fraternity, and he and Mrs. Shively are members of the Christian Church.

J. P. Skow, farmer and stock raiser, Verona, Neb. This successful and efficient agriculturist owes his nativity to Denmark, where his birth occurred in 1852, and is the son of Peter and Kirslen (Peterson) Skow, the father a carpenter by occupation. J. P. Skow attended school until fourteen years of age and then herded cattle for two years. After this he worked by the month on a farm, and when eighteen years of age took passage on a vessel for America. He landed at Quebec, Canada, and later came to Wisconsin, where he worked at farm labor for a Dutchman, and learned that language. He then went to another county in the State, worked in a saw-mill in the summer and in the woods in the winter; continued this for four years, and then, April 15, 1875, he emigrated to Nebraska, where he and his brother purchased a right to a soldier's homestead, a quarter section. This has since been improved very much, and is now worth more than \$30 per acre. In addition to this he has also purchased eighty acres of Burlington & Missouri River Railroad land, worth \$25 per acre. Mr. Skow has learned the English language since coming to Nebraska, and is an intelligent and well-posted man. The Verona Farmers' Alliance was organized in January, 1890, and he was made president of the same. He was active in its organization and was chairman of the

first meeting. He is chairman of the Democratic Central Committee of the township and takes a leading part in public affairs. He was a Republican until Cleveland took his stand on tariff reform, when he changed his views and now affiliates with the Democratic party. He was married in Nebraska to Miss Anna Paulsen, a native of Denmark, and five children are the result of this union: Martin, Peter, Pauline, Lyda and Grover, named in honor of ex-President Cleveland.

Edward J. Smith, a native of England, born in London, November 24, 1838, has been a resident of the United States since 1857, and is now engaged in farming and stock raising, although he learned the cooper's trade in his youth and worked at it for some time after becoming a subject of "Uncle Sam." His parents, who are now both dead, were born in England, their names being E. J. and Mary Ann (Berry) Smith, and, although the father was a cooper by trade, he followed the sea as a steward for a great many years, being in the employ of an East India Company. Edward J. Smith, the immediate subject of this sketch, after working as a journeyman at his trade in the United States for some time, settled down to tilling the soil in Illinois, but left the plow in the month of August, 1861, to enlist in the First Missouri Cavalry, and served faithfully and well until he received his discharge in October, 1864, participating in the battles of Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove and a great many skirmishes. After receiving his discharge he made his home in Morgan County, Ill., until he came to Nebraska, arriving here in the spring of 1873, and since that year he has resided on his present homestead in Clay County. He has since made purchases of land and is now the owner of 240 acres of good tillable land in a fair state of improvement. He has an excellent young orchard, consisting of select varieties, and is considered one of the prosperous farmers of this section of the country. On first locating here the prairie swarmed with buffalo, antelope and wolves, but these places now know them no more, being devoted to the culture of corn, wheat, oats, etc. Mr. Smith was married in Macoupin County Ill., September 9, 1867, to Miss Elizabeth J. Evans, a native of Mor-

gan County, Ill., and a daughter of William M. Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters: Charles E., Amy A., John F., Mattie F., William H., Mary E., Eliza L., George W. and an infant son unnamed. Mr. Smith and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he belongs to the G. A. R.

Neri Smith, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb., was born in Bedford County, Pa., in 1844, and is the eldest of six children born to Morgan and Elizabeth (Martin) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania, who were born in 1826 and 1827, respectively. Morgan Smith was the son of James and Sarah Smith, and was a farmer by occupation. He was married in 1843 to Miss Elizabeth Martin, daughter of Isaac and Mary Martin, and became the father of the following children: Neri (subject), Daniel, Mahala, Mary and Sarah (twins) and Nancy Jane. Daniel married Miss Eddy, a native of Ohio, and now resides in Nordhoff, Cal.; was in the service four years and twenty days, in Company E, Eighteenth Ohio Infantry. Mahala married John Gallentine, a native of Pennsylvania, now resides in Missouri. Mary married William Shepard, a native of Ohio. Sarah married H. C. Mathews, of Noble County, Ohio; he died in 1875. She married the second time, G. V. Cope, in 1877, and died in 1879. Nancy J. married P. K. Miller, of Hastings, Neb., now resides in Nordhoff, Cal. The father of these children died in 1854, and the mother married George Carroll, of Hastings, Neb., in 1875; he died the same year. She is a widow and now resides in Inland Township. Neri Smith's school days were spent in Morgan County, Ohio, whither he had moved with his parents when quite young. At the early age of ten years he started out for himself (the death of his father having divided the family), and worked on a farm. In 1861 he enlisted in Company H, Forty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for three years and seven months, participating in some of the principal battles—New Madrid, Mo., Island No. 10, Corinth, Miss., Iuka, and was in the Atlanta campaign, Sherman's march to the sea, and up through North and South Carolina, and on to

Washington, D. C., passing in grand review with Sherman's army. He was always with his regiment, and was only excused from duty eight days during his entire time of enlistment. He is at present a member of the G. A. R., Richardson Post No. 60, at Harvard. He received his discharge in July, 1865, and went to Ohio, where he followed farming for some time. He went to Cedar County, Iowa, in 1870, continued his former pursuit there, and the same year was married in that county to Miss Esther Faires, a native of Morgan County, Ohio, born in 1852, and the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Gifford) Faires. Mr. Smith emigrated to Inland Township, Clay County, Neb., in 1872, where he now resides, and entered 160 acres of government land. This he has improved, and now has one of the best farms in the township. He is also the owner of considerable town property. He is interested in political matters, has always been a Republican, and is now with the Prohibition party. He and wife are members of the Christian Church. To his marriage have been born five children: Ezra (born in 1873), Nona (born in 1875), Rilla (born in 1880, and died in 1882), Rollo (born in 1883) and Rena (born in 1888). Ezra and Nona are members of the Christian Church. The father of Mrs. Smith, Thomas T. Faires, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1809, and was the son of John and — (Hagerman) Faires; his wife was the daughter of Abram and P. Bessie Gifford, and was born in Maine in 1815. Mrs. Smith was the youngest but one of nine children: Lydia, Charity, Joel, Rath (deceased), Pearly (deceased), Patience J., Olive A., Esther and Manly. Lydia married S. Osborn, a native of Ohio; after his death married a Mr. Kolbrenner, of Savannah, Mo., where they now reside. Charity married I. Murphy, of Morgan County, Ohio, where they now reside. Joel married Miss S. Murphy, of Ohio, now residing in Cedar County, Iowa. Patience J. married T. Chapple, of Ohio; she died in 1868. Olive A. married L. W. Hunnicutt, a native of Ohio; now resides in Clay County, Neb. Manly married Miss E. Burnes, of Andrew County, Mo., where they now reside. The father of these children died in Andrew County, Mo., in 1887, and the mother at the same place in 1889.

Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father was a Republican in politics, and a public-spirited citizen.

George F. Smith, farmer and stockman, Inland, Neb. The father of the subject of this sketch, David Smith, was a native of the Pine Tree State, born about 1802, was reared on a farm, and after growing up embarked in the livery business in Boston. He was married in that city to Miss Roxanna Newell, and to them were born six children, five of whom grew to maturity: Charles, John, Stephen, Jacob H., George F., and one daughter who died in infancy. The father died in Boston, in about 1855, and the mother in the same city, in 1859. She was a member of the Baptist Church. George F. Smith was born in Boston, Mass., in 1846, and there received a good practical education. At the age of twelve years he went to Maine, where he finished his schooling and started out for himself in 1865. Previous to this, however, in the winter of 1864, he enlisted in Company C, First Maine Regiment Infantry, and served about thirteen months, receiving his discharge in 1866. Returning to Maine he engaged in farming and was married in that State in 1867, in Kennebec County, to Miss Mary V. Frost, a native of Maine, born in 1845, and the daughter of Allen and Nancy (Hersom) Frost. Mr. Smith emigrated West in 1871, settling in Poweshiek County, Iowa, where he remained for one year, and in the spring of 1872 emigrated to Clay County, Neb., where he was among the first settlers. He took up 160 acres of land, began improving, and now has a nice place with a good orchard and grove. He affiliates with the Democratic party. His success in Nebraska is chiefly owing to honest endeavor and good business ability. To his marriage have been born two children: Allen and Maude.

David L. Smith, farmer and stock-raiser, Inland, Neb. A stranger who may be passing over this portion of Clay County can not but admire the many beautiful places to be seen on every hand, places which indicate by their appearance the abode of men leaders in matters pertaining to husbandry. Mr. David L. Smith is of this class.

The owner of sixty acres of land, he is actively and successfully engaged in farming, conducting all his operations according to the most advanced ideas. Mr. Smith came originally from New London County, Conn., where he was born in 1855, and is the son of Henry N. and Lydia L. (Lathrop) Smith, the latter a daughter of Simeon and Phoebe (Peckham) Lathrop, who died in Connecticut. Henry N. Smith was born in New London County, Conn., in 1827, and was a farmer by occupation. He was married to Miss Lathrop about 1852, and reared eight children: Miron, Horace, David L., Louis, Julius, Anna (now Mrs. Grow, of Boston), Everett and Bertha. The father died in Connecticut, in 1883, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Franklin, New London County, Conn. She is a member of the Congregational Church, of which the father was also a member. He was a successful business man and in his political views affiliated with the Republican party. He was the son of Prentice P. and Maria (Avery) Smith. David L. Smith spent the early part of his life in attending the schools of New London County, Conn., and in 1873 started out for himself as a farmer and school-teacher. In 1879 he emigrated to Illinois, settled in Boone County, and was there engaged in farming and teaching school for some time. He was married in that State, in 1884, to Miss Mary B. Williams, a native of Illinois, born in 1857, and the daughter of J. R. and Tabitha (Doolittle) Williams, the mother a native of Vermont. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith was born one child, Ada Helen. Mr. Smith emigrated to Nebraska in 1884, settled in Clay County, and bought sixty acres of land, which he has improved very materially since. He has been very successful since coming here, and his property is the accumulation of many days of hard work. He is a member of the school board of his district, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in politics affiliates with the Prohibition party. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Walter E. Spicer. Although a young man, there is probably no one within the limits of Nebraska who is as extensively engaged in the breed-

ing of fine stock, especially Berkshire hogs, as Mr. Spicer. His farm is an especially fine one for the successful conduct of this enterprise, and the manner in which he manages his affairs shows without doubt that he is thoroughly acquainted with every detail of the business. He was born in McDonough County, Ill., September 14, 1863, a son of Thomas H. and Arminta (Kerby) Spicer, the former of whom was born in Delaware in April, 1828, being a son of James H. and Priscilla (Ralph) Spicer. Thomas H. removed with his father to Illinois at an early date, landing at Quincy in 1835, and moved to McDonough County in the spring of 1850. He afterward engaged in fine stock-breeding which resulted in Walter acquiring a thorough knowledge and liking for the business. He came to Nebraska in 1884, and engaged in the breeding of Berkshire hogs, and has gained a widespread reputation as a stockman. He has taken more premiums than any man of his age on record and has purchased the highest priced hog that was ever brought west of the Missouri River, with the exception of Model Duke. The following is a list of some of the prizes taken by him in 1889 at the Omaha (Neb.) Fair and Exhibition: Berkshire boar, over two years old, first prize on Stumpy Duke III, 15,889, weight 705 pounds; Berkshire boar, one year and under two, first prize on Handsome Prince, 21,147, weight 700 pounds; Berkshire boar, six months and under twelve, first prize on Royal Duke, weight 400 pounds; Berkshire boar, under six months, first prize on Artful Duke, and second prize on Romford Duke; Berkshire sow, over two years, first prize on Romford, 15,790; Berkshire sow, one year and under two, first prize on Queen III, 19,774, and second on Romford VII; Berkshire sow, six months and under twelve, first prize on Romford XI; Berkshire sow, under six months, first prize on Beauty; Berkshire boar, any age, first prize on Handsome Prince, 21,147; Berkshire sow, any age, first prize on Lucy Gentry IV, 18,823; Grand sweepstake herd of one boar and four sows over one year old, of any breed, first prize on Handsome Prince, 21,147, with Romford 15,790, Romford II, 15,791, Lucy Gentry IV, 18,823, and Sallie Thompson II, 15,602. Here Mr.

Spicer took first prize for everything he competed for over very strong competition. The weight of the four last-named sows was 661, 630, 532 and 514, respectively. Queen III, 19,774, weighed 538 when less than seventeen months old; Romford VII weighed 420 when less than thirteen months old; Romford X, 363, at a few days over eleven months old, and Romford XI weighed 371 at about the same age. At the Nebraska State Fair, held at Lincoln, he took the following premiums: For Berkshire boar, over two years old, first prize on Stumpy Duke III; Berkshire boar, one year and under two, first prize on Handsome Prince; Berkshire boar, under six months, first prize on Romford Duke and second prize on Artful Duke; Berkshire sow, over two years old, second prize on Sallie Thompson II; Berkshire sow, six months and under twelve, second prize on Romford X; Berkshire boar, any age, first prize on Handsome Prince; the pork packers' prize, "best fat hog of any age, sex or breed," first prize on Romford XI, and for the best show of any of the pure breeds of swine, first prize. This last prize was a special premium, given by the "Nebraska Farmer," Lincoln, Neb., which is one of the best life-stock journals in the West, the following item being taken from its columns. "And for the best show of pure bred swine, any breed in Nebraska, the prize went to W. E. Spicer, who has without doubt the best herd of Berkshires in the State, and it also seems that he is fully able to compete with the best herd in America and come out with as many prizes as it, viz.: N. H. Gentry, of Sedalia, Mo., after which Mr. Gentry pays a long price for a half interest in Mr. Spicer's boar, Stumpy Duke III." J. W. Patterson, of Craig, Neb., whose integrity and ability as an expert judge of swine is well known and above suspicion, tied the ribbons with much satisfaction to the exhibitors, the pork packers' prize being decided by a committee of three men. This prize was hotly contested as other breeds were strongly represented, but by a unanimous vote of the committee, the ribbon went to Romford XI. At the State Fair at Topeka, Kas., many prizes were taken by the animals exhibited by Mr. Spicer, but space forbids a detailed mention of them, suffice it

to say that they were spoken of very highly by "The Breeder's Gazette," of Chicago, Ill., and the prize given to boar over two years old was taken by Stumpy Duke III. This animal also took the first premium at the Illinois State Fair at Peoria, notwithstanding the fact that he had many competitors, and won again at the New Era Exposition at St. Joseph, Mo., and St. Louis, Mo. Handsome Prince also won first in class and sweepstakes at Peoria, Ill., also first at New Era Exposition, St. Joseph, Mo., and was placed second at St. Louis, Mo.—the only time he was ever placed second in his class. Mr. Spicer has very seldom met with defeat on prizes contended for, for his herd of swine is unsurpassed, and the example he has set in this direction has served as an impulse to others to follow him in this industry, and he has thus proved of great benefit to the community in which he resides. He is a man of energy, progressive spirit and perseverance, and his many worthy qualities have placed around him a host of friends and acquaintances. He has been married since 1886 to Miss Helen M. Bayles, of Harvard, and by her has two children: Guy E. and an infant unnamed. He and his wife are members in good standing in the Christian Church.

Wright M. Stacy, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. This young but enterprising citizen is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Ashtabula County, January 15, 1850, and is the son of Abiram Stacy, who went from New York to Ohio when a young man and was there married to Pناه Stevens, a native of Vermont. Mr. Stacy was a farmer by occupation, and continued this pursuit in Lake County, Ohio, for many years. He moved to Nebraska in 1872, settled in Jefferson County, and there he now resides. His wife died in 1885. They were the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom Wright M. is the third in order of birth. He attained his growth in his native State, received the advantages of a good common-school education, and emigrated to Nebraska when a young man, or in March, 1871, arriving with about \$250. He (in company with his brother-in-law, W. R. Thurber) located in the county, pre-empted the west half of the south-

west quarter of Section 34, Town 5, Range 5, and built thereon a pole and sod structure 12x14 feet, the first of anything inhabitable in the southeastern part of the county. His nearest trading point was thirty-five miles. He homesteaded where he now lives in 1872. He is now the owner of 160 acres, all fenced, principally by hedge, and all in a good state of cultivation. He has a neat residence, good substantial outbuildings and a fine orchard of 500 trees, select varieties of fruit just beginning to bear. Mr. Stacy has been handling and feeding some stock for a number of years, and is one of the prominent and substantial citizens. He is a Republican in his political views. He was married in Jefferson County, Neb., October 3, 1877, to Miss Ruth Cole, a native of Sank County, Wis., and the daughter of Asa and Jane Cole, of Jefferson County, Neb. Mrs. Stacy was principally reared in Allamakee County, Iowa, and taught in the schools of both Jefferson and Clay Counties, Neb. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stacy was born one child, Ward A., June 18, 1883. Mr. Stacy is a member of the M. W. A., and he and wife are official members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Sunday school.

Samuel W. Stephenson, grain dealer, Inland. Prominent among the commercial resources of the town of Inland must be included the trade carried on in grain, etc., and among those most prominently engaged in it is Mr. Samuel Stephenson. He was born in St. Joseph County, Mich., in 1852, to the marriage of John and Mary (Holland) Stephenson, both natives of England. The father was born about 1808, was married in his native country, but later emigrated to the United States, and located in New York State. Afterward they moved to Michigan, and in 1887 the father came to Nebraska, settled in Inland and engaged in the hotel business. He is a Democrat in politics. The mother died about 1865. The five children born to their marriage were named as follows: Jane (now Mrs. G. W. Ablott, living in Clay County), Maria (deceased), Samuel, John (deceased), and Sarah (residing in Michigan, and now Mrs. Schafer). Samuel Stephenson began for himself by farming in Michigan about 1873, emi-

grating to Inland, Neb., in 1880. In 1884 he took charge of the grain business of Cochraïne & Co., which he carried on for four years. In 1888 he followed the same business for L. Butterfield & Co. He was married in 1887 to Mrs. Mary Kerr, step-daughter of Fedde Fixsen, of Inland [see sketch]. To Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson was born one child, Flossie. By a former marriage Mrs. Stephenson became the mother of one child, Mandie. Like his father, Mr. Stephenson affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes considerable interest in political matters. He has been successful, financially, since coming to Nebraska, and is the owner of a house and lot besides other property in Inland. He was elected to the office of town clerk, and held this position until 1889, when he was re-elected for 1890-91.

Prof. Alexander Stephens, superintendent of Sutton schools, Sutton, Neb. Since his residence in this county Prof. Stephens has been very prominently identified with the material affairs of this community, indeed, far more so than the average man. Particularly in the direction of educational matters is this true. He was born in Perry County, Pa., December 16, 1840, and his parents, William L. and Margaret (Elliott) Stephens, were also natives of the Keystone State, the former born in Perry County, August 18, 1808, and the latter in Cumberland County, in 1810. They were married June 2, 1835, and became the parents of three children: James (born March 23, 1839), Alexander (subject) and Elizabeth (born December 31, 1842, and died in Perry County, Pa., in 1870). The Stephens family trace their ancestry back to three brothers, viz.: Andrew, Robert and James, of Irish descent, who emigrated to the United States in the latter part of the seventeenth century from the Emerald Isle, and effected a settlement in Juniata County, Pa. One of these brothers, James (the grandfather of the subject here treated), died in Perry County, Pa., in 1850, and was eighty years of age at that time. He and the father of Alexander H. Stephens were brothers, and, therefore, Prof. Alexander Stephens and Alexander H. Stephens are second cousins. The maternal grandfather, James Elliott, was born in County Kent,

Ireland, and died in Cumberland County, Pa., about 1850. Prof. Stephens remained on his father's farm until fifteen years of age, and after first attending the district schools, in 1854 entered Markelville Academy, from which institution he graduated two years later. The succeeding two years he was professor of mathematics in that academy, and in 1859 he entered Bloomfield College, Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in the classical course in 1862. He then spent some time teaching, and in 1863 attended the State Normal School. From 1863 to 1872 he taught in Pennsylvania, and was principal of the South Ward school at Washington, Iowa, from 1872 to 1875, where he had many warm friends who, to-day, speak of Mr. Stephens as one of the best educators ever in the county. [The writer of this sketch is from Washington County, Iowa, and knows.] From 1875 to 1886 the Professor was superintendent of the public schools at Aledo, Mercer County, Ill., and in October of the last-named year took charge of the schools of Sutton. He is pleasant and agreeable in his manner, firm and decided in his views, and no better man could be found for educational work, having devoted his life to it. Since his residence in this State he has each year attended the institutes here, and in 1888 was appointed a member of the State board of education, having been twice reappointed to the same position. He was the first to take charge of the new school building (which then had eight teachers, but now has eleven), and to this they have added two more rooms. They have an excellent library and good furniture in the school. It is hardly necessary to speak of Mr. Stephens' reputation as an educator, for he is known all over the State as one of the best and ablest instructors in the same. He was married, in 1865, to Miss Mary Leonard, a native of Perry County, Pa., born in 1839, and the daughter of George W. and Matilda (Wiseman) Leonard. To Prof. and Mrs. Stephens has been born one child, W. Logan, whose birth occurred July 16, 1866, and who is now a professor in Union Seminary, in Lancaster County, Neb. Prof. Stephens is a Republican in politics, and religiously a Presbyterian.

Herman E. Stein, county clerk, Clay Center, Neb. The subject of this sketch needs no introduction to the people of Clay County, for though young in years he has become well known throughout the county. His public services thus far have been characterized by a noticeable devotion to the welfare of this county, and his ability and fidelity in his present position have made a very favorable impression upon all. Mr. Stein was born in Bloomington, Ill., on July 19, 1861, and is the son of Louis and Caroline (Frey) Stein, the father a native of Prussia and the mother of Allentown, Pa., though of German descent. The mother died in Illinois, and in 1872 the father and family emigrated to Nebraska and located at Harvard, where the father is living at the present time. Herman E. Stein received a good English education in the public schools. After this he followed the grocery and agricultural implement business with his father, and in January, 1881, entered the employ of the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, as traveling salesman in Nebraska. He remained with this company until the summer of 1885, and in January of the following year he came to Clay Center as deputy county clerk, serving in that capacity until November, 1889, when he was elected county clerk. This position he now fills in an efficient and capable manner. He has always been a staunch Republican in his political views. On August 8, 1888, he married Miss Jennie F. Shane, a native of Eddyville, Iowa, and to this union has been born one child, Helen L. Mr. Stein is a Mason, being master of Clay Center Lodge No. 139. He is also a member of the A. O. U. W. and K. of P., and is recognized as one of the representative young citizens, and a careful and capable public officer.

James N. Stockham is a native of the "Buckeye State," born in 1853, being one of twin children born to William and Sarah (Fields) Stockham, the former's birth occurring in Ohio in 1815. After obtaining a fair English education he began life for himself as a farmer, and was married at the age of twenty-two, the fruits of his union being nine children: Catherine (Mrs. Giles, living in Ohio), Joseph (of Stockham, Neb.), Martha (Mrs.

Elbin, of Ohio), Rachel (Mrs. Toland, of Hamilton County, Neb.), Lewis (of Clay County, Neb.), James N. and William J. (twins), Ruth (Mrs. Shonkwiler, of Ohio) and David (deceased). The father of these children lived in Ohio until about 1878, at which time he moved to Stafford County, Kas. His wife died in December, 1872, and after remaining a widower for about a year he married Miss Jane Martin, of Ohio. He is an active Democrat, and is ever found ready to support worthy enterprises. James N. Stockham spent his school days in Ohio, but received rather limited advantages, and began his own career at the age of twenty-one years. In the month of September, 1873, he espoused Miss Elizabeth, a daughter of Elijah and Esther Southworth, of Ohio, and to their union a family of three children have been born: George E., Elijah and William A. In 1873 Mr. Stockham came to Clay County, Neb., and homesteaded eighty acres of land, to which he has since added eighty acres more, which makes his one of the best farms in the county. His farm is excellently improved with buildings, fences, etc., and in his enterprises he fully holds his own with his surrounding neighbors. Like his father before him he is public-spirited and a Democrat politically, and is now holding the position of assessor in his precinct.

Spencer Taylor, farmer and stockman, Inland, Neb. The career of Mr. Taylor illustrates to a marked degree what can be accomplished when industry and close application are supported by a willful determination to move forward in the affairs of the world, and a willingness to do himself what others might leave for some one else to perform. Mr. Taylor was born in Windham County, of the Green Mountain State, in 1840, and is the fourth of five children born to the marriage of Alfred and Martha (Hammond) Taylor. His paternal grandparents were named Ebenezer and Polly (Spencer) Taylor. The maternal grandparents, Peter and Charlotte (Holdbrook) Hammond, were natives of Massachusetts, and the grandfather was a miller by trade. He was born in 1776, and died on the anniversary of his birth in 1878, making him one hundred and two years of age. He was

made a Mason in 1789. His father was a member of the "Boston Tea Party." Peter Hammond's wife died on the road from Vermont to Illinois in 1858. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Alfred Taylor (father of our subject), was born in 1806, in Windham County, Vt., and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. He was married to Miss Martha Hammond in 1833, and reared four children: Caroline (now Mrs. Miner Freeman, of Iowa), Spencer, Martha (now Mrs. Dr. P. L. McChesney), and Peter H. (who resides in Illinois.) The father of these children died in Illinois in 1877, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Henry County, Ill. She is a member of the Congregational Church. The father was a Democrat in politics, and a successful business man. Spencer Taylor moved with his parents to Illinois in 1856, and settled with them in Henry County, where he engaged in farming. He started out for himself in 1860, and was married the same year to Miss Ursula Carpenter, daughter of L. M. B. and Sally (Giles) Carpenter, both natives of Plymouth, Vt., the father born in 1808. The mother died in Iowa in 1880. They were the parents of these children: J. B., Ursula, Eleanor and Emma. Mr. Taylor farmed first in Illinois, but in 1871 emigrated to Iowa and settled in Jasper County. In 1880 he emigrated to Clay County, Neb., and settled in Inland Township on the place where he now lives. He bought 160 acres of land, which he has improved very materially by setting out groves and orchards, erecting buildings, etc. He devotes a great deal of his time to the raising of stock, and carries on farming on a very large scale, cultivating from 400 to 600 acres. To his marriage have been born five children: Alfred (born in 1863, and married to Miss Ida Lamp), Shirley (married to Miss Nellie Ingalsbe), Giralda (married to W. Woodard, who died in 1889), Clinton and Spencer. Mr. Taylor is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. Benjamin Carpenter, the grandfather of Mrs. Taylor, was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill. He was of English descent.

R. M. Thompson, real-estate agent, Sutton, Neb.

The constant change in the ownership of property in this growing city, and the amount of land still unpurchased in the county, makes the real estate business a paying one in Sutton. Among those who have been successful in this pursuit is the firm of Thompson Bros. R. M. Thompson was born in Scotland, and is a son of James and Margaret Thompson, the latter's maiden name being Eadie. The parents were both natives of Scotland, and the father died in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1848, two days after the family arrived in this country. Then the mother with her children removed to Dane County, Wis., settled on a farm near the city of Madison, and were pioneers of that county. The mother died in Sutton, Neb., in 1874. In September, 1864, R. M. Thompson enlisted in Company B, Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served nearly one year, being discharged at Mobile, Ala. He came to Sutton, Neb., in 1872, has resided here ever since, and is now engaged in the loan and real-estate business. He is a Republican in politics, and one of the first-class citizens of the county. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Evening Star Lodge of Sutton. His brother, W. E. Thompson, was born and educated in Scotland. During his residence in Wisconsin he was engaged in farming, and for eight years was town treasurer of Verona and precinct in Dane County. He came to Sutton in the fall of 1874, and in 1888 was elected tax collector of the city of Sutton and precinct, and in 1889 was re-elected to the same position. He is a Republican in his political views, and is a member of the Congregational Church, of which he is treasurer. Another brother, James Thompson, died at Collinsville, Pa., February 20, 1881, while on a business trip to that State. A sister, Margaret Thompson, who married Daniel B. Lester, died in Wisconsin. To her marriage were born three children: Arthur, John and Eveline.

Griffith J. Thomas, editor of the Harvard Courier, is a newspaper man of long experience, his connection with his present paper dating from May 6, 1889. He was born in Harlech, Wales, January 20, 1847, being a son of John G. and Mary (Williams) Thomas, with whom he came to

America when he was but four years old. On reaching this country the family first located at Remsen, N. Y., and subsequently settled at Utica and Frankfort Hill, the mother dying at the latter place in the month of April, 1854. In September, 1855, the father, accompanied by the subject of this sketch, went to Berlin, Wis., where the latter spent his boyhood, youth and early manhood. He attended school until he was twelve years of age, after which he attended a district school a portion of each winter and labored upon a farm each summer, continuing this until he enlisted in the Union army August 20, 1862, becoming a member of Company C, Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, acting in the capacity of drummer boy for one month. July 17, 1863, he enlisted in Company B, First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, with which he served until August 30, 1865, being mustered out of service at Lexington, Ky. A part of this time he was on detached duty as chief clerk of the First Division, Department of Kentucky. He made a brave and loyal soldier and was honorably discharged. He then returned to his home at Berlin, Wis., but April 1, 1866, he went to Detroit, Mich., where he reported for duty on board the United States revenue steamer "John A. Dix." He served as quartermaster on board of her until April 1, 1867, then returned to Berlin and entered the office of the Berlin Courant, and remained connected with that paper until April, 1876, discharging, during the last two years, the duties of editor and publisher. He then severed his connection with the Courant to accept the office of city clerk, to which he had been elected by a handsome majority, in which capacity he served until May 1, 1877, when he resigned to take charge of the Berlin post-office, having been appointed postmaster by President Hayes. He made an efficient officer until August 16, 1886, when his successor was appointed at his request, and in the fall of that year he removed to Clay County, Neb., and located on a farm which he had previously purchased in Harvard Township. In the fall of 1888 he removed to the city of Harvard, and May 6, 1889, he purchased the Harvard Courier, a six-column quarto weekly newspaper,

which he has owned and ably edited since, it being one of the spiciest and newest journals in the West. Politically he has always been a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the K. of P., the A. O. U. W., and the G. A. R. He served as commander of John H. Williams Post No. 4, of Berlin, Wis., one year, but prior to this he had served as department commander of the State of Wisconsin during the years 1879, 1880 and 1881. In the K. of P. Lodge No. 7, of Berlin, he served as keeper of records and seal from 1874 until 1879, and for about eight years he served as deputy grand chancellor, and for five years as master of exchequer in the same order. He is now a member of Harvard Lodge of Masons, and Harvard Lodge, K. of P., but retains his membership in the G. A. R. and A. O. U. W. at Berlin, Wis. He was married November 1, 1874, to Miss Anna E. Griffith, daughter of Richard and Anne Griffith, of Seneca Township, Green Lake County, Wis. Two sons, George Henry and Harrie Griffith, have been born to them, and they are regular attendants upon the Harvard High School.

W. Riley Thurber, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. Mr. Thurber is numbered among the younger of the successful and rising agriculturists of this county, but none have a brighter future or will make better use of their advantages. He was born in Lake County, Ohio, on October 26, 1850, and is the son of Frank and Orcelia (Harris) Thurber, natives also of the Buckeye State. William R. Thurber was left fatherless when but four years of age and was reared and educated by an uncle until the latter's death, which occurred when Riley was thirteen years old. He remained in Lake County until twenty years of age, and in April, 1871, homesteaded an eighty-acre tract, where he now lives, which he has since increased by adding 160 acres, all adjoining. He was the first to settle on the prairie with his brother-in-law, Wright M. Stacy, and at that time there was not a neighbor within fourteen miles. Mr. Thurber now has one of the best-improved places in the precinct. He has his farm of 240 acres all fenced, has a large

two-story house, a new barn, one of the best in the county, and is also engaged in raising stock. He has a fine orchard of about 400 trees, some now bearing, and take him all in all, is one of the most enterprising and wide-awake farmers to be found. He has been engaged in feeding and handling stock for about twelve years, and has been very successful in this business. When first coming to this State he had but \$300, and has made what he has by industry and economy. He was married in Lake County, Ohio, on February 15, 1871, to Miss Ella Stacy, a native of Lake County, Ohio, where she was reared and educated, and the daughter of Abyram Stacy, now a citizen of Jefferson County, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Thurber are the parents of seven children: Ida, Ada, Frank, Anna, Burt, Vern and Clifford. Mr. Thurber is a Republican in politics, has held the office of magistrate, and is now serving his fourth term as justice of his township. Mr. Thurber is also a member of the A. O. U. W. Mrs. Thurber is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Alvin Timmerman is a representative farmer and stock raiser and dealer of Clay County, Neb., and since locating here he has become well known to the citizens of the county. He was born in the Mohawk Valley, in Montgomery County, N. Y., January 5, 1838, a son of Abram I. and Maria (Defendorf) Timmerman, who were born in the same State and county. The father's death occurred there in 1882, but his widow still survives him and is now making her home with her youngest daughter. Alvin Timmerman grew to manhood in his native county, and in his youth received the advantages of the common schools and an academy, improving his time to the utmost during his attendance. After teaching in New York for quite a period he went to Illinois and there followed the same occupation for some time, his labors as a pedagogue comprising in all about fifteen years. He took up his abode in Illinois in 1866, and moved from there to Nebraska in 1884, settling in Clay County, and purchasing the farm where he now resides, which amounts to 160 acres of fertile land, the buildings on which are fair. He has been quite extensively engaged in the stock

business for some time, and each year disposes of some fine stall-fed steers. His marriage to Miss Mary J. Phillips took place March 12, 1862, and to them a family of eight sons and five sons have been born: Birdella (wife of Arthur Matthews, of Clay County), Lincoln A. (who is attending the Normal College at Peru, and will graduate this year), Van D. (who is at home, a teacher by profession), A. I., Harry, Jay, Fred, Madge, Gracie, Wade F., Rollo, Faye and Edith. Since locating in Clay County Mr. Timmerman has done his full share in advancing every interest of the county, and his endeavors toward promoting this end have been recognized by a host of acquaintances, among whom he stands high as a man and citizen. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, being secretary of his lodge, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Ira Titus, cashier of the First National Bank of Fairfield, Neb., and one of the prominent business men of that city, owes his nativity to McHenry County, Ill., where his birth occurred December 18, 1846, and is the son of Starr and Elsie (Hickox) Titus, natives of New York State. In 1855 the parents removed to Richland County, Wis., where Ira Titus was reared and educated. In 1864 the latter enlisted in the Union army, Company F, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and served as a private until December, 1865. In the spring of the following year he went to Polk County, Iowa, and followed farming there and in Jasper County, Iowa, until March, 1883, when he removed to Fairfield, Neb. The following December he accepted a position as book-keeper with the Fairfield Bank, and was later made assistant cashier. Upon the organization of the First National he assumed the same position with this institution, and in January, 1888, was elected cashier, which position he has since filled in an active and reliable manner. In October, 1872, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Crooke, a native of Martin County, Ind., and to them have been born seven interesting children: Burdett, Audrey, Carl, Grace, Beryl, Bertha and Clara. Mr. Titus is a Prohibitionist, and in his political views generally affiliates with the Prohibition party. He and Mrs. Titus are members of the

Christian Church, and he is recognized as one of Clay County's most enterprising and successful citizens.

William Wakelin has devoted his attention to farming and stock-raising the greater portion of his life, and as a result is one of the well-to-do residents of Clay County, Neb. He was born in Muskegon County, Mich., January 16, 1863, being a son of James and Rosamond (Heaton) Wakelin, both of whom were born in England. The father came to the United States when a young man and married and located in Muskegon County, Mich. From there he moved to Clay County, Neb., in 1880, and died on his farm in Section 21, Lone Tree Township, on October 17, 1889. His first wife died about 1869 or 1870, leaving three children: Mary R., William and Richard. His second marriage was to Mrs. Rachel Trask, who still survives him, having borne him one child, a son. She has two children, Albert and Jane Trask, who were born to her first union. William Wakelin was reared in the lumber regions of Michigan, but came to this State with his father and three years later began farming for himself, purchasing his present excellent farm in the fall of 1888. He was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Nettie McFarland, a daughter of Archie McFarland of Clay County. Mr. Wakelin is a Democrat in his political views and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He is one of the wide-awake and enterprising young farmers of the county, and by his advanced ideas and progressive habits has done no little for the farming interests hereabouts.

P. T. Walton, auctioneer, Sutton, Neb. Among the names identified with the business enterprises of Sutton, commanding worthy mention, is that of P. T. Walton & Son, who are known throughout the city and adjoining county as the best auctioneers to be found. P. T. Walton was born in Whitley County, Ind., September 9, 1847, and is the son of P. R. and Prudence (Hodges) Walton, the father a native of the Green Mountain State, born November 7, 1809, and the mother a native of Utica, N. Y., where her birth occurred on November 22, 1811. She died March 4, 1871. P. T. Walton, the third of five children (four of

whom are living) born to his parents' marriage, was reared to the arduous duties of the farm, and having his father's consent, enlisted in Company E, Thirty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served three years, or until 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky. He then returned to Delaware County, Iowa, whither the family had removed in 1857, and spent two years engaged in agricultural pursuits. He then took several courses in music, and from 1867 to 1873 taught both vocal and instrumental music in Iowa and Nebraska and was a very successful musician. He came to Clay County, Neb., May 20, 1871, and has since been a resident of this county, being engaged from 1873 to 1878 in the employ of the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Company. From 1878 to 1886 he was in the agricultural implement business, and in March, 1887, he received a patent for Walton's Sure Cure for Hog Cholera. Since the granting of the same he has been manufacturing and selling this remedy, which has proven to be one of the best cures of its kind in the market. He has also been in the auctioneer business all the time since his residence in this State, and is one of the successful men in this line. He was married on August 5, 1866, to Miss Mary Huskey, a native of Germany, born in 1842, and the fruits of this union have been four children: B. T. (who is now in partnership with his father), Lydia M., James E. and Grace B. In politics Mr. Walton is a Republican, and socially he is a member of the G. A. R., I. O. O. F. and K. of P. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for two years he has been Sabbath-school superintendent at Sutton. He is one of the pioneers of Clay County and an honored and respected citizen.

George Weber is a native of Ashland County, Ohio, born on October 23, 1848, and is of German descent, his parents Michael and Mary Magdaline (Spillman) Weber, having been born, reared and married there. They immigrated to the United States in the year 1847, and located in Adair County, Mo., in 1858, near Kirksville, and are there now living. Mr. Weber was a soldier in the Federal army for three years, and was in the Kirksville (Mo.) fight, as well as a number of

others. George Weber remained with his father until he was twenty years of age, then went to work for himself, and in 1875 came to Nebraska, arriving in Clay County in March of that year, and immediately homesteaded eighty acres of the land where he now lives, being now the owner of 200 acres, all under fence and cultivation, well improved with all necessary buildings, his barn and residence being new. His orchard comprises about 200 trees. The property of which he is the owner, has been mostly obtained since coming to Nebraska, and he is deservedly classed among the substantial farmers of the county. He was married in Adair County, Mo., December 24, 1871, to Miss Elizabeth Ellen Stanley, a native of Indiana, born in Porter County, and a daughter of Solomon Stanley. She and Mr. Weber are the parents of three children: Jacob M., Minnie May and William A. Both parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Edgar, and he belongs to the A. O. U. W.

Henry Weber, farmer and stock-raiser, Sutton, Neb. This prosperous and most successful farmer and stock-raiser emigrated to Clay County, Neb., from Russia, in 1875, and first located at Sutton, where he was engaged in farm labor for about four years. The four years following this he was engaged in buying stock for Thomas Powers, and in 1883 he purchased his present homestead of 160 acres, 115 of which are under cultivation. Henry Weber is the son of J. and Susanna (Schait) Weber, and the grandson of Henry and Maria K. (Borel) Weber, who are still living at a ripe old age. The parents were born in Russia, where the mother resides at the present day, but the father died in 1870. Henry Weber was born on December 16, 1854, and was married at Sutton, Neb., on February 13, 1883, to Miss Minnie Keller, the daughter of Otto and Dorothea (Bierman) Keller, natives of Hanover, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Keller emigrated to Illinois about 1857, thence to Nebraska about 1880, and located in Fillmore County. To Mr. and Mrs. Weber have been born four children, all sons: Wilhelm G. (born on November 4, 1884), Louis H. (born on February 4, 1886), Frederick J. (born on Septem-

ber 27, 1887) and Edward (born on May 9, 1889). Mr. Weber has been a witness to the growth and development of the country, and has been quite successful in his pursuits. He is one of the well-to-do farmers of his township. He and wife were formerly members of the German Reformed Church, which they still attend, but do not hold membership. He cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield, and has always supported the Republican party.

John Weir, farmer and stock-raiser, Lewis Township, Clay County. In mentioning those of foreign birth who have become closely associated with the farming and stock-raising interests of Clay County, we should not fail to mention Mr. Weir, who is not only one of the substantial men of the county, but is also esteemed and respected by all who know him. He was born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1835, and there received the principal part of his education. When sixteen years of age he came to the United States, secured a position as clerk in a store, and continued in the same for four years. He saved his salary, and later went to Illinois, where he rented a farm in Stark County, and tilled the soil until he had accumulated sufficient means to enable him to purchase land, remaining there until 1882, when he emigrated west. He sold his farm of eighty acres for \$12,000, and came immediately to Clay County, where he bought half a section of land, and this he has since increased to a section. He is an extensive stockman, and is decidedly one of the largest feeders in the county. He was married at the age of twenty-three in Stark County, Ill., to Miss Jeanette E. Fall, a native of Scotland, and the fruits of this union were nine children, eight now living: William, Adam A., Margaret, Jennie A., Mary, James E., Hiram H., John, and one died at the age of seven months. In his political views Mr. Weir is a Democrat, and is quite deeply interested in politics. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and all his people were members of the same. He is the son of William and Mary Weir, the father a farmer by occupation.

Justus E. Wheeler, clerk of the district court, Clay Center, Neb. Every life has a history of its

own, and although in appearance it may possess little to distinguish it from others, yet the political career and experience of Mr. Wheeler as well as his popularity as a citizen, have contributed to give him a wide and popular acquaintance with nearly every resident of Clay County. He was born in Stephenson County, Ill., on February 7, 1846, and is the son of Henry R. and Electa B. (Ellis) Wheeler, natives of Greene County, N. Y. Justus E. Wheeler was reared to manhood in his native county, and received a good high-school and business education in the same. In 1863 he enlisted in the Union army as private in Company D, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, serving as private and non-commissioned officer with the Fourth and Twelfth Cavalry, until June, 1866. After the war he entered the service of the United States in the revenue department, and later followed mercantile pursuits in Chicago until 1874, when he moved to Clay County, Neb., with his father and family. The father died at Harvard in 1884. Justus E. followed farming until 1881, when he moved to Clay Center, and was deputy county clerk for four years. In 1887 he was elected to his present office which he has filled ably and well ever since. On January 18, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte A. Winters, a native of Wayne County, N. Y., and to his marriage has been born one child, a son, Henry K. Mr. Wheeler is a Republican in his political views and a member of the G. A. R. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the A. O. U. W. He is a man much respected and an intelligent and upright citizen.

Henry S. White. This honored and respected resident of Lone Tree Township is accorded a worthy place in this volume, for he is a well-known agriculturist and stockman, and a man of no doubted integrity and honesty of purpose. He was born in Geauga County, Ohio, October 4, 1853, and is a son of Shephard and Louisa (Stafford) White, natives, respectively, of Vermont and New York. Henry S. White has been familiar with the duties of farm life from his earliest recollections, and besides spending his youth in assisting his father in tilling the home farm he attended school, and in time entered Hiram College, and

upon leaving this institution he followed the occupation of school-teaching for several years. In the month of May, 1879, he came to Clay County, Neb., and in the month of February, 1880, purchased eighty acres of fertile land in Section 36, afterward purchasing 120 acres more in the same section, which he still owns and upon which he has resided since 1881. December 25, 1882, he was married to Miss Esther, a daughter of Henry and Esther (Rose) Hall, of Fairfield, a sketch of whom appears in this work. Mr. and Mrs. White have reared a family of three children: Charles H., Elsie E. and Bertha Grace. Mr. White has always been a Republican in his political views until of late, and is now a Prohibitionist. He and Mrs. White are members of the Christian Church, and he is a man who is recognized as one of the up right and respected agriculturists and citizens of Clay County.

John G. White, a resident of Fairfield Township, was born on the 28th day of May, 1860, in Geauga County, Ohio, and is a son of Shephard White, a native of the "Green Mountain State." John G. was reared to manhood in his native State, and being rather mischievous and careless in his youth, did not take advantage of the opportunities offered him for advancement, and only acquired a common-school education. Like the majority of boys he followed in his father's footsteps, and has always given his attention to agriculture. After residing in his native State until he attained his majority, he, in 1882, followed his brother Henry, and came west, settling in Clay County, where he purchased 240 acres of land, but now only owns 160 acres, eighty acres in Section 1, and eighty acres in Edgar Township. Miss Jennie C. Buffington, a daughter of John Buffington, of Indiana, became his wife, she having been born near Knoxville, Knox County, Ill., August 7, 1862, and to them two children have been born: Edna and an infant unnamed. In connection with his farming operations Mr. White is engaged in raising a good grade of horses and cattle, and although a young man and a recent settler, he is already accounted a representative farmer of the county, and being honest in all his dealings with the public he is respect-

ed and esteemed accordingly. He has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party, and is a member of the Christian Church at Fairfield. By careful management he has secured a start toward a handsome competency, and gives every promise of becoming a wealthy citizen.

William T. Widenor, farmer and stockman, Inland, Neb. In Inland Township there are to be found a number of men who, while perhaps not as large land holders as many others in the county, devote themselves with such ceaseless energy to the estate they do own that the results are much more satisfactory than had the same amount of labor been placed upon a larger tract. Mr. Widenor owns eighty acres of land but has all this under cultivation, with good orchard, complete and necessary buildings and other desirable conveniences. This farm is located three miles from Inland and about six miles from Hastings. Mr. Widenor is a native of New Jersey, born in Warren County, in 1830, and is the third of four children born to John and Elizabeth (Thomas) Widenor, the latter first daughter of John Thomas, all of New Jersey. The parents were born in Warren County, N. J., in 1802 and 1798, respectively, and the father was a carpenter by trade. They were married in 1825, and reared a family of four children: Henry (in Conway, Taylor County, Iowa, married), George (in New Jersey, married), William T. and John T. (who is married and resides at Scranton, Pa.) The parents of these children died in their native county in 1836 and 1855, respectively. The father was a Democrat in politics. His father, Henry Widenor, was of German descent. William T. Widenor received his schooling in New Jersey, and in 1853 went to Lackawanna County, Pa. Previous to this, in 1850, he was married in New Jersey, to Miss Catherine M. Price, of New Jersey and the daughter of Robert and Jane Price, also natives of New Jersey. William T. Widenor followed tanning from his early youth and this continued in Pennsylvania until 1872, when he emigrated to Wisconsin and settled in Sauk County of that State, where he tilled the soil. In the same year Mr. Widenor came to Clay County. He entered eighty acres of land from the government and to this he moved his family in

September, 1873. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is a class-leader in the same at Inland. In politics he is Democratic and has been judge of election in Inland Township. To his marriage were born the following children: Elizabeth (now Mrs. True of Hayes County, Neb.), George (a farmer and horse raiser of Clay County), Emma (now Mrs. Wise of Hayes County, Neb.), William M., John, Susan (now Mrs. Hartley of Clay County, Neb.), Alma (now Mrs. Morrison of Dundee County, Neb.) and Ruth.

James Williams. There are few farms, if any, of its size in this portion of Clay County, Neb., that represent a handsomer picture of advanced agriculture than the one referred to in the present sketch. It comprises 160 acres of fertile land, all of which is inclosed in a good hedge fence, and is in a fine state of cultivation, well improved with a commodious and substantial frame residence, a good new barn, granaries, etc., besides an excellent grove of cottonwoods, box-elder and ash, comprising about eight acres, and an excellent young orchard just commencing to bear. Mr. Williams, the owner of this farm, was born in Greene County, Ill., October 20, 1835, and is a son of James and Lucy (Crittenden) Williams, who were born in East Tennessee and Culpeper County, Va., the former's birth occurring in 1792. He removed to Kentucky with his father at a very early day, and was there reared to manhood, but in the fall of 1829 he became a resident of Greene County, Ill., which place continued to be his home until 1855, when he moved to Macoupin County, where his death occurred on July 1, 1882. He and his father and brother served in the War of 1812 along the shores of Lake Erie. His wife's death occurred several years prior to his own. James Williams, the subject of this sketch, remained with his parents until twenty-nine years of age, living with them in Greene and Macoupin Counties, after which he engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself, remaining there until April, 1889, being the owner of a one-half section of land in the last-named county. At the above-mentioned date he sold out and purchased his present property, which has

proved a decidedly good investment. He was married in Macoupin County, Ill., June 30, 1863, to Miss Mary J. Strong, a daughter of Solomon and Elizabeth Strong, but she died in 1865, having become the mother of one child, who is now deceased. Mr. Williams married his present wife September 3, 1868, she being Miss Strong, born in Scott County, Ill., a daughter of Rev. William H. Strong, who was a native of Kentucky, and had been a minister of the Christian Church for fifty years. Four children were born to Mr. Williams' second marriage, Elmer E. (who is now attending school at Fairfield) and John D. (a lad of thirteen years) being the only ones now living. Lulu died at the age of seventeen months in Illinois, and James C. March 3, 1889, at the age of five years. The family worship in the Christian Church at Fairfield, and are honest and upright citizens.

Dr. Marcus W. Wilcox, physician, Harvard, Neb. Dr. Wilcox is recognized throughout the State as a friend of and laborer in the cause and advancement of the medical fraternity, and no name is better known among the medical profession than his. He was originally from Honeoye Falls, Monroe County, N. Y., where his birth occurred June 14, 1832, and is the son of John W. and Polly (Hurlburt) Wilcox, both natives of the State of New York. Dr. Wilcox was but three years of age when his father died, and when six years of age he accompanied his widowed mother, two brothers and two sisters, to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. He passed his youth in the town of Jefferson, and when not in school was employed as a clerk. At twenty-one years of age he took up the study of medicine, and in the fall of 1851 entered the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, which he attended one term, being provided with the necessary means by ex-United States Senator Benjamin Wade. In the fall of 1852 he began his practice at Sycamore, Wyandot County, Ohio, and afterward graduated from the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati. In 1864 he received his degree from the Chicago Medical College. Prior to this he had successfully practiced his profession at Carey, Ohio, and Mattoon, Ill. In 1871 he came to Nebraska, and after

practicing in Lincoln one year, located in Sutton and there continued until 1881. In that year he located in Harvard, where he has since devoted himself to the relief of suffering humanity. He has practiced his profession in Clay County for the past seventeen years, and is now numbered among its oldest and most prominent physicians. Dr. Wilcox was married in Wyandot County, Ohio, to Miss Angeline C. Hall, a native of Lake County, and the daughter of Moses Hall. She died in 1860, leaving one child, Frank W., who is now a young man. Dr. Wilcox was married to his present wife in the fall of 1881. She was formerly Miss Lydia Martin, daughter of Capt. George W. Martin, of Harvard. Dr. Wilcox is a Royal Arch Mason and in politics is a devoted member of the Republican party. He was a member of the Nebraska State Constitutional Convention in 1875. He served as postmaster of Mattoon, Ill., under Andrew Johnson, and he was the first mayor of the city of Harvard, Neb. He has represented Clay and Fillmore Counties one term in the State Senate, and is one of the representative citizens of the county. He is a pleasant, sociable man, and possesses a quiet and amiable disposition. He has led an active life, and in every circle, whether of a civil, professional or political character, he has been conscientious in doing his whole duty, and is an honorable, upright man.

C. J. Wilson: One of the neatest and best-conducted farms in Clay County is that controlled by Mr. Wilson, on which he has resided since 1881. Although he came to the State in 1879 his buildings and fences are all in excellent repair and he has good fruits of all kinds and five acres of an excellent young forest. Besides tilling the soil much of his attention is given to raising fine stock. He owns some fine horses, cattle and swine. He was born in Lafayette County, Wis., November 1, 1861, being the third child born to Miles and Rachel (Gurly) Wilson, the former a native of Yorkshire, England, and the latter of Edinburgh, Scotland. Miles Wilson received his early education in England and was there reared to manhood. In 1850 he came to the United States and settled in Gelana, Wis., where he engaged in agricultural

pursuits. He was married in 1858, and his marriage resulted in the birth of nine children, four of whom are now living: C. J., Nancy (now the wife of D. B. Helm, living in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa), Mary J. (living in Denver, Colo.) and E. V. (a resident of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa). From Wisconsin Mr. Wilson removed to Clay County, Neb., in January, 1879, and here makes his home, his wife having died October 7, 1887. C. J. Wilson, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared in Wisconsin, and when nineteen years of age commenced tilling the soil on his own responsibility. February 29, 1888, he was married to Miss Luella Kaster, a daughter of Thomas Kaster and Margaret (Williamson) Kaster, of Wisconsin, in which State he was married. They have one child, Darwin. Mr. Wilson is an active Democrat and has been a delegate to the county conventions for several years in succession, and socially is a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of P. and the Farmers' Alliance.

M. Wittenberg, merchant, Sutton, Neb. The trade carried on in merchandising is of very great importance, and constitutes a leading factor in the commercial fabric of the smaller towns and villages. It is a line of business requiring special qualifications of a high order, and only those possessed of these succeed in this somewhat precarious undertaking. Prominent among those engaged in this line in Sutton is Mr. M. Wittenberg, one of the pioneers of the county and one of the oldest continuous dry goods merchants of Sutton. He owes his nativity to Hungary, where his birth occurred in April, 1837, and is the son of Morris and Rachel (Fischer) Wittenberg, natives, also, of Hungary. The mother died in that country at the age of thirty-five years, and the father died in Portland, Ore., at the age of seventy-two years. By occupation he was a merchant. M. Wittenberg, the eldest of four living children, came to the United States in 1857 and settled in Kansas. In 1862 he enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Kansas Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He had a brother, Arnold, who was a member of Company H, Second Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, enlisting in 1861, and who died from wounds received at Little Rock, Ark.

After the war Mr. Wittenberg returned to Kansas and spent some time on the farm, after which he went to Topeka, of that State, and until 1872 was a merchant of that city. He came to Sutton in the fall of 1872, and at once engaged in the same business here. This he has since continued, and has been unusually successful. He is energetic and enterprising, a thorough and competent man of business, who is honorable and upright in all his dealings. In 1887 he built his present business house, a commodious brick structure, two stories high, 42x81 feet, and carries the most complete line of dry goods in this part of Nebraska. He has taken an active part in building a number of the best structures in Sutton, and is one of the representative men of that city. He was united in marriage at Topeka, Kas., in March, 1871, to Miss Rachel Schumacher, a native of France, born in 1849, and their union has been blessed by the birth of six children: Bell, Nannie, Herman, Abe, Sophia and Esther. In politics Mr. Wittenberg is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Sutton Lodge No. 49, and is a member of the Sutton town council. He is also a member of the G. A. R., and is one of the directors of the First National Bank. He is a self-made man, and deserves much credit for his enterprise and business ability.

Christopher E. Wolf is a grain buyer, representing J. H. Gregg of St. Joseph, Mo. He was born in North English, Keokuk County, Iowa, May 19, 1864, and was the third of eleven children born to the marriage of Abraham Wolf and Catherine Fritz, both of whom were born in Dayton, Ohio, the former in September, 1847, and the latter in January, 1853. Owing to the long distance this family lived from any school, Christopher E. received very meager educational advantages, and at the early age of thirteen years he commenced the battle of life for himself by working on a farm, as his parents had all they could do to properly care for the remainder of the family. At the age of sixteen years he went to Shelby, Iowa, and worked as a farm hand, sending his wages to his parents, only reserving an amount sufficient to meet his own immediate expenses. He remained

in that county until the spring of 1885, then emigrated to Holt County, Neb., and took up a tree claim, but at the end of one year disposed of this property and accepted a position on the Northwestern Railroad, which was at the time it was being built a branch from Chadron, Neb., to the Black Hills. He remained thus employed for fifteen months, then returned to Holt County, and on June 30, 1887, was united in marriage to Miss Lena Barnhill, a daughter of William T. and Mary (Potter) Barnhill, who were born in the "Blue Grass State," in 1847, and in New Jersey in 1853, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Wolf have one child named Cary. After being engaged in farming in Holt County with his father-in-law until 1887, Mr. Wolf removed with his family to Ayr, then came to his present location. Upon first coming here he was engaged in husking corn for the different farmers until February 20, 1888, when he entered the service of his present employer, J. H. Gregg, and has since been engaged in buying grain. He is a wide-awake young man, and by his upright dealing and energy has acquired a handsome competency, and gives every promise of becoming a wealthy citizen. He believes in enjoying life as he goes along, but is also a believer in putting by some money for a rainy day, and has already made an excellent start in this direction. He has always been a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and he and wife are members of the Evangelical Church.

Thomas Woods is a prominent farmer and stock-feeder of Linn Precinct, Clay County, Neb., and was born in County Monahan, Ireland, in 1852, his parents, Moses and Margaret (Boyce) Woods, being also born there in 1810 and 1818, respectively. In 1868 they left the land of their birth to come to America and located in Iowa, where they resided until 1874, since which time they have resided in Nebraska. They own a fine tract of land comprising 320 acres, well improved, with a fine young orchard, a vast number of forest trees, excellent buildings, fences, etc. This farm is one of the neatest and best-improved in the township, and shows in a marked degree the energy, perseverance and determination which characterize its

owner. He was married in 1878 to Miss Henrietta Harden, a daughter of John A. and Sarah (Engle) Harden, natives of Maryland, in which State Mrs. Woods was born. Mr. Woods is the only son in a family of seven children born to his parents, his sisters all being married and residing in different parts of the United States. His parents are still living and make their home with him.

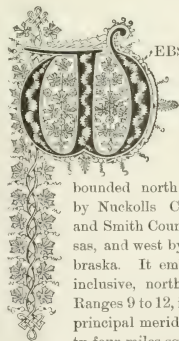
Joseph S. Yeast is a man of sterling principles and progressive views, and he belongs to that honest, sturdy and independent class, the farmers of Nebraska. Although he was born in Fayette County, Pa., January 12, 1855, he was taken to Fulton County, Ill., by his parents, Adam and Susan (Morley) Yeast, when two years of age, and ten years later removed with them to McDonough County, where he was reared to mature years. Here he also received his early education, and at the age of twenty years he began the battle of life for himself and successfully conducted a restaurant for three years. After selling out he came West in 1877 and settled in Saline County, Neb., where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, but becoming dissatisfied, he returned to his former home and for some time worked in the dry goods establishment belonging to his brother-in-law, A. J. Minor. The latter then sold out and moved west and Mr. Yeast soon followed and settled in Clay County, where he has owned some fine pieces of land. In the fall of 1888 he purchased his present property, containing eighty acres, all improved land, and on this he has an excellent and commodious dwelling house, etc. In the fall of 1876 he was married to Miss Mary Ryan, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Bair) Ryan, natives of the "Keystone State." Mrs. Yeast was born March 3, 1854, and her union with Mr. Yeast has been blessed by the birth of five children: L. Earl, Carl B., Ethel G., Ana Ruth and Jessie Ward. Mr. Yeast has always voted the Republican ticket, and, like the majority of farmers of his neighborhood, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance and is treasurer of Fairfield Lodge. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church, and he is ever found ready to aid liberally, with both purse and influence, all worthy public enterprises.

WEBSTER COUNTY.

CHAPTER XXIII.

LOCATION AND BOUNDARY—AREA AND SURVEYS—SURFACE FORMATION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—BEGINNING OF SETTLEMENT—NAMES OF PIONEERS—PRIVATIONS OF EARLY YEARS—STORMS AND PLAGUES—MEN vs. GRASS—HOPPERS—A PIONEER ROLL—FIRST TAX LIST—A DECADE OF PROGRESS—INDIAN SCARES—INHABITANTS OF LONG AGO—CALAMITIES, ETC.—SOME FIRST THINGS—"SOD-HOUSE ARISTOCRACY"—INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS.

Straight mine eyes hath caught new pleasures,
Whilst the landscape round it measures;
Russet lawns and fallows gray,
Where the nibbling flocks do stray.—*Milton.*



WEBSTER COUNTY, Neb., named in honor of the great statesman, Daniel Webster, lies in the southern tier of counties 150 miles west of the Missouri River. It is bounded north by Adams County, east by Nuckolls County, south by Jewell and Smith Counties, in the State of Kansas, and west by Franklin County, in Nebraska. It embraces Townships 1 to 4, inclusive, north of the base line, and Ranges 9 to 12, inclusive, west of the sixth principal meridian. This makes it twenty-four miles square, and gives it an area of 576 miles, or 368,640 acres, all of which is prairie except a small proportion of timbered land along the streams. The base line from which the surveys of Nebraska are made is the southern boundary of the State, and is on the fortieth par-

allel of north latitude. This places Webster County nearly on the same latitude as Springfield, Ill., Indianapolis, Ind., and Philadelphia, Pa.

No geological surveys have been made of Webster County, consequently but little can be said upon that subject. Geologists claim that this was once the bed of an ocean, afterward heaved up to its present elevation. The subject of geology is treated of in general in the State history. The topography of the county presents some striking features. The Republican River passes through it from west to east, averaging from four to five miles north of its southern boundary. Prof. Samuel Aughey, in his sketches of physical geography and geology of Nebraska, thus describes this great river: "The Republican River rises in the Colorado plains, near Range 49 west of the sixth principal meridian. Here, anciently, there was a lake whose basin was about four miles across. The outlet or river draining it, however, long since cut down the narrow rim and drained the lake. Its

head here in the old lake is 4,050 feet above the sea. A few small springs now rise below the surface of this lake, and produce a tiny streamlet a foot across. Other streams, about or nearly as large, soon join it, but at the State line I could still—when there in the spring of 1877, with D. N. Smith—jump across it. Along this part of its course there are a few beautiful lakelets, into which and from which it flows. Here the water is cool and clear as crystal. When it receives the waters of the Arickaree, about seven miles east of the State line, it assumes its characteristic character. It now becomes shallow and sandy, and in places rapid. * * * An immense number of small creeks flow, every few miles, into the Republican, especially from the north. This river, unlike the Platte, increases regularly in breadth and volume all the way from its source to its exit from the State in Nuckolls County. It is forded in many places, and the only danger is from quicksands.

"It will be seen in the list of elevations that have been given, that the general level of the Republican is three hundred and fifty-two feet below that of the Platte. There is, therefore, a descent from the Platte to the Republican, and along such a formation that there is easy drainage from the one into the other. That there is such drainage on an extensive scale, I have no doubt. Wading in the Republican in August, as I have done for many miles at a time, I noticed water on the north side oozing out of the drift continuously every few feet, in places, and rarely at greater intervals than every few rods. Nothing of this kind was noticed on its southern shore."

The south side of this river, as it passes through Webster County, is bordered with bluffs that rise abruptly to a height of from seventy-five to one hundred feet, and the river generally runs next to the bluffs on the south side of the valley; consequently the ascent from the river toward the north is much more gradual than toward the south. The valley proper between the uplands ranges from one to four miles in width. From the first bottom along the river, the lands are beautifully terraced, especially toward the north, to the uplands.

The ascent from one terrace to another is so

gentle, in many instances, that only the careful observer would notice it. The lines of these terraces curve in so many different ways that the traveler looks in vain for two that are similar in appearance. The uplands are frequently reached by steep and abrupt bluffs, which extend back for a distance of from half a mile to three or four miles, affording beautiful and picturesque scenery. In other places again, no bluffs intervene between the bottoms and the uplands, but the surface ascends gently and by step-like terraces until high ground is reached. Where this is the case, these step-like slopes present a most beautiful and enchanting appearance. The uplands themselves are comparatively level, but are gently undulated and present every variety of form that can be imagined.

The dividing ridge or water shed between the Republican on the south and the Little Blue River on the north passes east and west through Webster County, about six miles south of its northern boundary. North of this, in Kearney and Adams Counties, heads the Little Blue; one branch, however, heads in Franklin County and flows northeasterly across the northwest corner of Webster County. All the other creeks in the county north of this ridge flow north and northeasterly into the Little Blue. The ridge averages about fourteen miles north of the Republican, and from its south side the creeks, principal of which are Beaver, Willow, Elm, Crooked and Indian, flow in a southerly direction into the Republican. Another ridge extending east and west lies in Kansas, just south of the southern boundary of Webster County, and composes the water shed between the Republican River in Nebraska and the Solomon River in Kansas. The creeks north of this ridge in Webster County that empty into the Republican are Walnut, Dry, Buffalo, State, Penney, Cedar, Ash and Guide Rock. Along all of the creeks are good bottom lands, and on some of them there are good mill seats, but only one has been utilized, and that one is near Amboy, on Elm Creek. The surface of Webster County is rolling and more broken, and has more streams and valleys than Adams County. The soil, however, is similar, and very much like that of all other counties between the Platte and the Repub-

lican Rivers, being a very deep and rich loam, that produces well with less rainfall than is required in the Eastern States.

The Republican Valley, in what is now Webster County, was occasionally visited by hunters, trappers and explorers for some time before its permanent settlement began. They had to exercise great care, however, to avoid the Indians, who had not yet abandoned their hunting grounds and retired "toward the setting sun."

In the spring of 1870 the attention of many who contemplated settlement was called to the Republican Valley. On April 19, after having spent some time in searching for a location, Donald McCallum and Emanuel Peters selected a place for settlement in the broad and fertile valley of the Republican, on the north side and near the mouth of Soap Creek. The place was called Guide Rock, from a large rocky bluff on the opposite side of the river, which, being so high above the surrounding country, made a conspicuous landmark. About the same time, Silas, Joseph and Abram Garber made an extended trip up the valley on horseback, carefully examining the country as they went along. They were well pleased, and concluded to locate somewhere in what is now Webster County. After a long trip, the Garber brothers returned to Beatrice, where they found a number of men who were desirous of locating on some of the rich lands of the frontier. Therefore the two parties joined together, about the middle of May, and returned to the Republican Valley in the latter part of the same month. Beside the Garbers, this party consisted of William McBride, Albert Lathrop, Thomas Comstock and A. M. Talbott.

On arriving at Guide Rock, they found McCallum and Peters living there in a dug-out. They were members of the Rankin Colony, who had selected large tracts of land, but never settled upon them. The party were so well pleased with the location around Guide Rock that they determined to form a settlement here, and, therefore, to protect themselves from attacks by the Indians, they set to work to build a stockade on Soap Creek. This was completed in due time, and consisted of one room, forty feet square. The first woman to

come to the county was Mrs. Joseph Garber, who, with her husband, located at the stockade at Guide Rock. With the first settlers, Mrs. Sarah Rich, a widow, came and took a homestead near Guide Rock. Mrs. Garber and her husband now reside at Red Cloud.

A little later in the season, Silas Garber, afterward Governor of the State of Nebraska, pushed on up the river to the point where Red Cloud now is, and made a settlement. On July 17 the first homestead entries were made in the Red Cloud settlement by Silas Garber, Dr. Peter Head, W. H. Brice, August Roats and David Hefflebower. On August 9 W. E. Jackson and James Calvert arrived with their families.

In August, 1870, the settlers erected a stockade on the little stream that flows through the original homestead of Gov. Garber. The same year a few other settlers located around and near the stockade at Guide Rock and Red Cloud.

The winter of 1870-71 was a lonely one for the early settlers. The weather was cold, and provisions soon became very scarce. Everything of that kind had to be hauled from Beatrice. Game was, however, very plentiful, and though the settlers had to suffer many privations, there was no danger of starvation. In the spring of 1871 several more settlers located in the county. A settlement was formed on Elm Creek, between Red Cloud and Guide Rock. Among those settlers was M. L. Thomas, who opened the first farm in Elm Creek Valley. A stockade was built, and known as the Elm Creek stockade. The Guide Rock settlement was known as the Lower stockade, and that at Red Cloud as the Upper stockade.

There had been during the year of 1871 quite an extensive settlement, but being so far away from any town, and from the base of supplies, the winter of 1871-72 was passed in loneliness by the settlers. Yet among themselves they managed to enjoy some very good times. Game was still plentiful, and many passed away the time in hunting. Besides this, little parties were held at different points, and at the Red Cloud stockade a literary society of considerable merit was conducted. During the year 1872 there was quite a large

immigration to the county, and quite extensive settlements were made in all the more fertile sections. During the winter of 1872-73 no remarkable events took place. The time was occupied quite pleasantly by the settlers, who were now sufficiently numerous to give some social advantages.

The great Easter storm of 1873 is described elsewhere in this work. During the spring and summer of 1873 there was a large immigration to the county, and by this time all of the better lands belonging to the government had been taken up, and considerable of the railroad land sold. By this time, too, there was a large acreage under cultivation, and the yield of crops had been fair. Everything moved on quietly until the spring of 1874, when the immigration to the county again began, and on a large scale. There was a great addition made to the cultivated lands of the county. A large crop was planted, and during the early part of the season the prospects were that there would be a wonderful crop of all kinds of grain and vegetables, and in fact there was a good crop of wheat and oats harvested and secured. Then came a severe drought, accompanied with hot winds which lasted for several weeks, and would have been destructive of everything left in the way of crops, even though the grasshoppers had not made their raid. In the latter part of July came the grasshoppers, and they stripped the fields of everything not yet destroyed by the drought. The late wheat and oats and all the corn and grass were completely destroyed. Then came a trying time for the settlers. Many of them, discouraged, and seeing no way to live during the coming winter, and until another crop could be raised, left the country, some of them never to return. A large number of the settlers remained, however, determined to try and live some way, and wait for another year's crop. Some of them were able to wait with no danger of suffering if unaided, but the most of them were in desperate circumstances. Having but little money when they came, and having to spend one year in breaking the prairie, and planting a crop the second year, and that failing, they had no possible means of subsistence. Great economy had to be practiced and many privations endured.

Though brave and uncomplaining, many of the settlers must have starved were it not for help, consisting of provisions, clothing and seed, sent them so liberally by the sympathizing citizens of other more fortunate States.

In the year 1888, at a fair held at Red Cloud, the names of all early settlers present were recorded, together with the date of settlement, and post-office address of each, as follows:

Settlers of 1870: L. F. Munsell, July 1; W. J. Harris, October 5; Charles Gurney, October 8; Sarah Mick, July 17; Joseph Garber and C. A. Garber, June 10; E. T. Fearn, December 25; J. W. Burtis, September; all with post-office address at Red Cloud.

Same year: Donald McCallum, April 19; I. B. Hampton, July 27; O. Ayer, November 18; Emanuel Peters, April 19; Jacob Kinchu, July 10; A. M. Talbot, May 26; William Pettit, November 18; William Labin, July 12; Mrs. H. J. Garber, July 31, all with post-office address at Guide Rock. Also same year: John Rosser, July; post-office address, Amboy.

Settlers of 1871: C. C. Coon, May 9; W. Holworth, September 15; J. A. Barber, May 18; A. T. Ayers, February 10; S. King, April 27; M. C. Judd, January 24; Ann Briggs, April 6; O. McCall, April 28; A. C. McCall, April 28; S. P. Martin, April 15; G. B. Lea, March 17; A. B. Hanners, April 21; J. R. Wilcox, July 13; Noah Perry, November 1; F. P. Reed, November; Lorenda Munsell, June 24; Ira Sleeper, June 1; H. E. Sleeper, June 1; L. J. Ross, January 23; E. L. Martin, June 24; David Lutz, August 20; Daniel Norris, May; all with post-office address at Red Cloud.

Settlers in 1872: H. C. Andrus, May 9; George W. Hummel, May 28; John D. Leach, January 8; D. Hummel, May 28; M. B. McNitt, September 8; J. A. Tulleys, May 20; Mark H. Warren, May 7; S. A. Hummel, September 15; J. C. Warner, November 1; R. L. Tinker, May 10; Emma Tinker, May 10; E. B. Smith, June 19; A. Gurney, September; Mrs. J. R. Wilcox, June 1; Mrs. M. B. McNitt, September 6; S. A. Warne, September 6; H. J. Maurer, September 22; all with post-office

address at Red Cloud. Same year: J. W. Arnsberger, March 29; Jacob Monia, May 15; post-office address, Guide Rock. Also same year: C. C. Cox, February 15; postoffice, Amboy.

Settlers in 1873: L. Hummel, May 1; E. McCune, September 3; J. W. Bentley, March 6; M. S. Marsh, November 10; R. Hakes, September 28; Levi Moore, June; post-office, Red Cloud. Same year: William Norris, April 12; Ed. Grubb, May; Mrs. V. C. McCallum; post-office, Guide Rock. R. A. Palmer, November 24; post-office, Inavale. A. Saladen, April 15; post-office, Amboy; L. B. Thorne, September; post-office, Wells.

Settlers in 1874: C. W. Springer, January 9; N. Phelps, January 20; J. S. Gilham, May; C. W. Kaly, May; S. H. Robertson, March; J. C. Miller, March; post-office, Red Cloud.

It is not claimed that this list contains the names of all persons who had settled in the county up to the year 1874, but of those only who attended the fair and had their names and date of settlement recorded. The first settler on Walnut Creek, in the southwest part of the county, was Thomas Vaughn, who located there in October, 1871. The first settler on Blue Creek, in the northwest part of the county, was Frank Wheat, who settled there July 15, 1872. The first settler on the divide south of Blue Creek was Albert C. Smith, who located on Section 24, Township 4, Range 12, June 14, 1872.

The first tax list of Webster County that has been properly preserved is that of the year 1873, only three years after the settlement of the county began. It follows, as a matter of course, that all persons assessed for taxation with personal property that year were early settlers and actual residents; hence the entire list is inserted in this connection to show more conclusively who the early settlers and all the tax-payers were in 1873. The number annexed to each name shows the assessed value in dollars of the personal property of each. The list is as follows:

Austin Arnsberger, 90; James W. Arnsberger, 75; Osborn Ayers, 255; M. Alexander, 17; S. Alexander, 179; A. J. Armstrong, 383; James Alexander, 75; H. C. Andrus, 218; A. T. Ayers, 214; N. A. Beck, 185; William Beck, 224; George

Babbitt, 114; J. R. Robier, 180; C. R. Beese, 235; C. C. Bennett, 110; George Bonater, 110; Curtis Beal, 80; Thomas Blunt, 25; Simeon Brown, 155; W. C. Benson, 195; J. A. Barber, 100; John Barber, 50; J. A. Burkhead, 95; J. W. Burtis, 223; John Bivington, 85; William H. Brice, 54; John Beauchamp, 120; J. N. Brown, 3; G. W. Ball, 204; J. M. Baldwin, 143; S. B. Buree, 244; William iam Baldwin, 267; Moses Bass, 415; Judson Bailey, 145; James Bailey, 215; Stephen Bayles, 35; Franklin Beagle, 30; Asher Beal, 240; Henry G. Bills, 180; F. R. S. Bird, 60; Cyrus Broadwell, 190; Ezra Burton, 150; William B. Collins, 185; W. S. Cameron, 80; Henry Conny, 175; Alex H. Crary, 335; Jesse Curtiss, 90; George H. Curtis, 80; Daniel B. Coppock, 100; John Columbia, 25; Columbia & Montgomery, 1,000; C. C. Coon, 312; Jus. Chapin, 88; William Cox, 244; B. B. Crandall, 60; James Calvert, 230; Frank Cockerell, 120; William Crouch, 55; Cornelius Cox, 60; Thomas Campbell, 122; Jacob Cross, 15; C. C. Cox, 185; George Chapin, 114; A. W. Choat, 180; J. H. Carey, 140; Francis Choat, 50; Aaron Clark, 220; Samuel Dewhurst, 70; Jonathan Dunham, 320; Samuel Downs, 190; O. R. Downs, 134; John Devlin, 208; G. W. Delany, 253; Nelson Davis, 1,217; Joseph Davidson, 170; E. S. Doyle, 9; G. Douglas, 100; Victor Detour, 245; George Dewitt, 130; John Dunbar, 405; P. D. Drawburg, 130; Sheridan Dickson, 446; E. W. Edson, 133; Z. P. Earle, 210; John Emick, 165; Charles Fahndrick, 115; E. T. Fern, 175; W. F. Fent, 100; Mary E. Fisher, 20; Rudolph Fry, 215; William Fennimore, 362; Z. T. Fennimore, 80; Jasper Fuller, 128; Charles Gurney, 70; Silas Garber, 40; Garber & Co., 2,200; George Gibbons, 50; D. L. Groat, 90; J. L. Grundstaff, 157; Samuel Garber, 785; Abram Garber, 355; Garber & Bro., 500; Samuel Geiger, 265; A. H. Goarcke, 400; August Grout, 185; B. H. Gray, 140; Martin W. Hampton, 110; Isaiah B. Hampton, 160; Fred Hampton, 240; John Hampton, 125; Henry H. Hoskins, 145; A. M. Hardy, 170; John Haskins, 360; Albert Horn, 250; Joseph Hunter, 70; J. H. Hull, 205; Joseph Hull, 85; Ed. Hawley, 15; L. H. Haines, 135; T. Himmel-

berg, 225; H. J. Hobart, 155; Columbus Harris, 376; Jacob Haver, 59; George Heaton, 130; J. C. Holcomb, 150; Himan Holdridge, 98; J. R. Horn, 105; J. W. Hull, 114; Burl Hanner, 10; G. W. Hummel, 90; W. J. Harris, 113; George Houtz, 85; F. Honchin, 94; Gus. Hollengreen, 145; William O. Holsworth, 5; Peter Head, 275; William E. Jackson, 501; M. C. Judd, 5; A. N. John, 160; Henry Jennings, 170; Mary A. Jones, 351; E. H. Jones, 120; J. W. Jones, 100; James Knox, 180; G. W. Knight, 200; Andrew Kincade, 210; Jesse Kennedy, 55; Thomas Kennedy, 155; Moses King, 175; H. T. King, 121; Jacob Kincher, 225; John P. Kelly, 110; James Kirkwood, 133; Ed. Kellogg, 170; Edrick Keeney, 108; H. S. Kaley, 355; John S. King, 178; William Leitsch, 130; Mary H. Laird, 50; J. R. Laird, 20; W. C. Laird, 102; T. C. Laird, 51; R. C. Laird, 23; James La Duc, 171; John Laverty, 240; D. Laverty, 40; H. F. Lutz, 100; David Lutz, 60; George Laverty, 15; George B. Lea, 210; John D. Leach, 185; H. R. Lucore, 140; Tim Lawler, 95; L. H. Luce, 140; Alfred Lathrop, 580; Alford Lackey, 95; J. J. Miller & Co., 185; L. C. Mick, 160; Sarah Mick, 65; H. J. Milner, 465; William McBride, 265; Donald McCallum, 35; Henry McCormall, 420; William Montgomery, 340; Ezra Magner, 260; O. T. Mitchell, 58; James Murphy, 163; W. D. McKinney, 180; J. W. McIntosh, 10; Oliver McCall, 155; W. B. McNitt, 295; O. P. McKinley, 40; W. C. Maxwell, 135; James M. Martin, 450; C. Macumber, 60; L. F. Munsell, 546; H. J. Maurer, 70; Charles Munger, 220; F. M. Matteson, 140; J. McCoy, 197; L. S. Miller, 268; William J. Norris, 20; Dan Norris, 81; Andrew S. Neff, 217; L. H. Olmstead, 160; Arthur Owens, 125; August Pierstorf, 170; E. Petteys, 181; Elias Parker, 45; B. G. Parker, 130; Walter Penney, 100; Samuel Pettit, 105; William Pettit, 215; Emanuel Peters, 20; James Peters, 160; John Portnier, 80; William J. Perry, 52; John D. Penney, 610; Samuel Parks, 110; F. E. Penney, 110; Ed. Parks, 43; William Parks, 75; Martin Pupka, 85; C. H. Potter, 200; Noah Perry, 25; John S. Parks, 70; W. D. Rine, 84; John O. Riley, 295; Alceas Riley, 135; H. D. Ranney, 120;

Alex. Riley, 334; Eugene Rabedean, 90; Sarah A. Rich, 150; Norman Rickison, A. J. Renneker, 179; F. M. Randall, 125; James Romine, 180; A. T. Reed, 155; J. W. Richardson, 55; August Roats, 220; Dan Ross, 195; Hiram Ross, 166; H. W. Ross, 145; A. R. Rutherford, 165; G. C. Reed, 135; George Ross, 55; F. N. Richardson, 115; W. N. Richardson, 100; Casper Ross, 185; Chris. Rasser, 333; Gottlieb Rasser, 15; C. H. Smith, 120; M. B. Stevens, 110; M. C. Sherman, 118; A. L. Stevens, 116; W. T. Smith, 50; Ed. B. Smith, 315; Garrett Sager, 45; H. C. Scott, 160; J. W. Stocks, 30; John Simpson, 490; J. B. Sabin, 100; William Sabin, 245; O. P. Sawyer, 170; William Sawyer, 205; John Shelton, 230; Fidele Shafer, 110; F. M. Shuler, 230; George M. Simpson, 235; Albert Sloan, 60; Ira Sleeper, 130; Jacob N. Smith, 55; Lewis Smith, 50; J. E. Smith, 100; John O. Stratton, 245; Matthew Stratton, 4, 170; J. W. Stratton, 100; Thomas Stewart, 30; Rudolph Sommerholder, 70; Charles Schuldt, 34; N. Springer, 45; A. C. Smith, 977; W. A. Smith, 145; A. Scott, 300; W. E. Thorn, 109; W. B. Thorn, 325; John Tomlinson, Sr., 264; George Taylor, 112; Frank Tenant, 90; L. D. Thomas, 90; Charles Teachworth, 180; R. L. Tinker, 125; M. L. Thomas, 90; J. A. Tulleys, 50; I. W. Tulleys, 15; Isaac Turner, 96; A. M. Talbot, 320; David P. Thomas, 185; William Thompson, 200; Thomas Vaughn, 36; James Vaughn, 175; William J. Vance, 110; Preston Vancleve, 330; Mulety Victour, 160; William H. Walters, 41; William Wilson, 93; George Walker, 142; Alex. Walker, 412; William Wayman, 65; John Watt, Sr., 105; John B. Watt, 80; George White, 90; William Wright, 95; Elisha Woodard, 60; T. J. Wright, 155; J. R. Willcox, 12; S. C. Watson, 153; Laban Wabashon, 155; Carl Weber, 15; Wheeler Wicks, 165; John Waller, 125; T. B. Williams, 25; John S. Wagoner, 20; M. C. Williamson, 145; Benjamin Wagoner, 201; A. G. Wheat, 50; A. White, 150; S. S. Wells, 192; G. F. Wheat, 213; N. Yensen, 233; John Zachary, 180.

Another old settler, worthy of special mention here, was a parrot brought to Red Cloud in 1870, by William H. Brice. Dr. Tulleys was the owner

of the bird for many years. It died in his possession in the second week of April, 1890, having lived in Red Cloud nearly twenty years. How old it was when Mr. Brice purchased it, is not known, but it is supposed to have reached the age of about one hundred when it died. It had formerly been owned by Spaniards, the language of which people it spoke upon arriving in Red Cloud, but, becoming Americanized, it learned to speak English. Dr. Tulleys valued the parrot very highly, and could not be induced to part with it for any sum.

In the spring of 1875, following the great drought and grasshopper raid of 1874, the settlers who remained in the county began putting in crops, and though they had hard times, and their teams were in a half-starved condition, they were in good spirits. From a lack of seed and other causes, some of the settlers experienced many hardships during the summer, but they managed to exist until the crops could be gathered and marketed. The yield of crops for the year 1875 was very good, and it was with renewed energy that the settlers kept at work, constantly adding new improvements on their farms. At this time the greater number of them were living either in sod houses or dug-outs, with an occasional log house. It was not until some years after that frame houses became general.

During the year 1875 there was but little immigration to the county, and the acreage of cultivated lands was increased but little. In 1876 the county continued to increase in population and improvements. The acreage of crops was large, and the yield was good. At the State Fair, in the fall, Webster County products were awarded a medal. For the year 1877 there was but little to note but the continued and increasing prosperity of the county. The population by this time was nearly four thousand. The year 1878 is remarkable for the rapid settlement of the county and the vast number of improvements made. A movement had been set on foot to secure a railroad through the county, and the prospect of its early completion caused a great rush to Webster County.* The year 1879 opened with a still greater rush of set-

tlers than ever before. The railroad had been completed, and it was not long until all of the best lands of the county were occupied. By the close of the year the population numbered some 7,000. About this time a great number of frame houses were built in various parts of the county. Before the railroad was constructed, the nearest market where lumber could be obtained was at Hastings, forty miles distant from Red Cloud, therefore most of the settlers lived in their sod houses or dug-outs until lumber could be obtained nearer home. Steady progress was made through the year 1880. The winter of 1880-81 was, indeed, a severe one, and was very hard on live stock. The cattle in the spring were in very poor condition, as they had been exposed to the inclemency of the winter with but little protection from the storms. In the spring of 1881, as the snow began to melt, the creeks and rivers were flooded, and much damage was done to the bridges by the ice gorges. In many places the valley lands were overflowed, and some damage was done to farm buildings and property.

Following this, the immigration to the county was somewhat rapid, and its growth gradual, until the year 1886. Then followed three years, during which time the crops were shortened to some extent on account of too small a supply of rainfall. In 1889 there was an abundance of moisture, and the crops were excellent. Thus far in 1890 the prospects are flattering.

On several occasions the early settlers of the county were much alarmed on account of anticipated attacks by the Indians. Reference to one of these "scares" will suffice to show the nature of all of them. While the very few early settlers at Red Cloud were residing in the stockade, they had a law of their own enacting, to the effect that no one should fire a gun in the vicinity of the premises unless in a party out by permission for the purpose of hunting; consequently the firing of a gun was taken as the signal of the approach of hostile Indians. These wild men were always fond of bells, and by this time they had obtained a supply, and nearly every one of them had a bell on his pony. Mr. William E. Jackson, one of the dwel-

* See Railroads elsewhere in this work.

lers in the stockade, had a cow with a bell on her. About this time all the men within the stockade, excepting William E. Jackson and one other man, took the ox teams and went out to get timber along the river a short distance away. After the party reached the timber, Dr. T. B. Williams, afterward first clerk of the county, accidentally cut his foot, and a young man named Penney was sent in to get a saddle horse to carry the Doctor home. Before reaching the stockade the young man forgot the law and commenced firing with his gun at prairie dogs. Just before this, Mr. Jackson's cow had broken out of her pen and followed the oxen, so that when the men in the timber heard the report of the gun they also heard the cow-bell, which they supposed was on some Indian's pony. This to them was a double alarm, and they thought, though they could see no enemy, that the savages were certainly upon them. Mr. Jackson, upon hearing the firing of the gun, started out to see what occasioned the alarm. He soon met young Penney, who was "as pale as a sheet," having discovered his error. He then told Penney to hurry up and notify the women at the stockade, to remove their fright, that it was a false alarm, while he (Jackson) would go on to the timber to notify the men there. Mr. Jackson jocosely says that the fright was so great that upon reaching the timber he could hardly find a man, as all had hid away for safety. Finally he succeeded in calling them out of their retreat, and the scare was over. No Indians were near. The men said that the women were terribly alarmed, and the women retorted by saying that the men were frightened equally as much, or they would not have hid away so carefully.

Another scare, and an amusing one, too, followed this. Dr. Williams wore a moccasin on his wounded foot, and before it got well and while wearing the moccasin he went again to assist in getting timber. The track of his moccasin was discovered, and thoughtlessly taken to be the track of an Indian, hence another false alarm, which, when explained, caused considerable merriment. The Indians stole a little hay and corn occasionally, but did not otherwise disturb or injure the settlers of Webster County.

When the first settlers came to what is now Webster County, they found buffaloes, elk, deer, antelopes and coyotes in considerable numbers. The deer, however, were not so plentiful as in new counties with more timber. There were some wild cats and some lynx. Among the small animals, squirrels abounded in the timber along the streams, and prairie dogs were numerous in the open country. Wild turkeys and prairie chickens were also plentiful. For the first two years the settlers got their meat supply almost absolutely by killing and butchering buffaloes. These animals were so plentiful and so easily obtained that no part of the carcass except the best was used for food. During the next two years the citizens supplied themselves, so far as they could, with buffalo beef, but at the end of this time these animals became almost, and soon thereafter entirely, extinct.

The settlers of this county saw more buffaloes and had more experiences with them than the pioneers of other frontier settlements. In all the older States, where civilization advanced gradually in a body, the buffaloes seemed to scent the approach of the white men, and fled in advance. Formerly the frontier settler seldom saw a buffalo unless he went out beyond the advanced line of the settlement. In the settlement of this county, the pioneers passed the front line of civilization, and jumped over, as it were, a broad strip of unsettled territory, and located among the Indians, buffaloes and the other wild animals named. The wild turkeys have become almost extinct. Coyotes, prairie chickens and some of the small animals still remain in limited numbers. In the spring and fall seasons wild geese fly over the county in great numbers, and frequently flocks alight upon the prairies or wheat fields, and occasionally some are shot.

Soon after the settlement of the territory of Webster began, a number of human skeletons were found on the south side of the Republican River, some distance below Red Cloud, where a number of persons had undoubtedly been massacred several years before, by the Indians. Some of the old citizens here think they were a party of United States land surveyors, while others think they were a party of hunters or explorers. Had

they been land surveyors, it is most likely the fact would have been known.

In 1871 the remains of three hunters were found about half a mile east of Red Cloud. They had, in all probability, been murdered by the Indians some two or three years previously. When the fact of finding the remains of these hunters was advertised, their friends living near Fairbury, this State, came on and buried them at Red Cloud. They were out hunting buffaloes when they met their fate. When found, it was discovered that the wagon belonging to the hunters and one of the men had been partially burned.

About the year 1871—probably early in the winter of 1871-72—four men living on White Rock, in Kansas, started out with a team of mules and a wagon to hunt buffaloes. They were caught in a snow storm, and three of them took the mules, leaving the wagon and the other man in it, and attempted to save their lives by reaching some settlement. When the storm was over, they were found frozen to death, at a point in Smith County, Kansas, some eight or ten miles south and west of Red Cloud. They were brought to Red Cloud and here interred. The man that was left in the wagon was found before life was extinct and was cared for and saved. His feet, however, were so badly frozen that they had to be amputated. When the friends of the three who were interred at Red Cloud heard of the incident, they came and opened the graves, identified the bodies and took them home for final burial. The mules belonging to the party also perished in the storm.

In the summer of 1884 Mrs. Ida Wagner, widow of Daniel Wagner, was on a visit at the house of her father, William Van Dyke, about six miles south and a little west of Red Cloud. She had with her a little son, aged about sixteen months. This child wandered away from the house and became lost. The alarm was given, and the neighbors and people turned out and diligently sought for the child, but found it not. It was lost forever! Some months thereafter the remains of a child, supposed to be this one, were found about a mile northwest of Mr. Van Dyke's house.

In the fall of 1871 several cattle kings, dealing

in Texas cattle, took immense herds of cattle from the State of Texas to Kansas for shipment to the East, and 6,000 head or more of these herds (unfit for shipment) were brought into the Republican Valley, in Nebraska, to graze and to be improved during the winter of 1871-72. This vast number of cattle was herded in the valley between the mouth of Thompson Creek, in Franklin County, and the mouth of Willow Creek, in Webster County, a distance of about twenty-five miles, twenty of them being in Webster County. The winter was very cold, and the ground was so deeply covered with snow that the cattle could not get to it to graze. Feed at that early date could not be obtained here, as the few early settlers had thus far not been able to raise a surplus, and the facilities for shipping it from abroad were insufficient, consequently about four-fifths of all these cattle perished. The numerical loss is variously estimated by the surviving early settlers.

The owners of one herd of these cattle employed William E. Jackson and his son-in-law, George Taylor, and many other early settlers, to skin their dead cattle for half that the hides sold for. Many cattle, however, were skinned by parties not thus employed, and in these instances the owners received no share of the proceeds, and many were not found at all in time to secure their hides. The manner of skinning these cattle was a novel one. The skin was cut around the neck and down the breast and belly and down each leg, then a log-chain was fastened to the hide at the top of the neck, being drawn off of the carcass with a team. W. N. Richardson, the leading cattle dealer, now of Red Cloud, but then a pioneer merchant, bought a large proportion of the hides sold on this occasion and shipped them in wagons to Waterville, Kas. The early settlers also lost some of their cattle by the severities of this winter, but in general the loss of the "cattle kings" resulted in gains to many of the settlers, especially to all who engaged in the hide business. It was, as one of them expresses it, "a bonanza to the early settlers." Truly "there is no great loss without some small gain."

The first marriage in the county was that of William J. Norris and Hulda J. Rennecker, on

July 14, 1871, the ceremony having been performed by Judge Silas Garber.

Rev. Penney preached the first sermon here in the summer of 1871.

The first child born in the county was a son of W. D. McKinney, born in 1871, on Walnut Creek.

Miss Mary Kinsley taught the first school in Webster in a log school-house near the Guide Rock stockade.

The first homicide occurred July 4, 1871, when Richard Bowbier shot and killed William Hicks on Ash Creek.

The first saw-mills in the county were built in 1872—one at Guide Rock, by J. L. Columbia and M. Stratton, and one at Red Cloud, by J. Q. and J. Potter.

The first newspaper published was the Red Cloud Chief, established in July, 1873.

The first flouring and grist-mill was built on the Republican River, in 1874, by Potter & Sayre.

The first teachers' institute was held in Red Cloud in April, 1874.

The first liquor license in the county was granted to Silas Garber, on March 20, 1872, for \$25, for a year.

The first dug-out residence was constructed in the Guide Rock settlement by the first settlers there.

The first log house was built by Joseph Garber, September 20, 1870, at a point one and a half miles east of the present village of Guide Rock.

The first frame house was erected by Silas Garber in Red Cloud—the old court-house.

The first wire fence in the county was put up in March, 1874, by William Norris.

In July, 1872, George W. Hummel hauled the first load of goods from the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at Juniata, in Adams County, to Red Cloud, for Messrs. H. S. Kaly and Saddler & Co. He was gone seven days, having had to wait three days on his return at Blue River for the water to fall.

Frank Buschow planted the first hedge fence, 200 rods, in May, 1874.

A. T. Reed hauled the first crop to market—wheat raised in 1872.

The first organized religious society in the county was the Methodist Episcopal Church on Penney Creek, organized by Rev. C. W. Wells, August 10, 1871.

At an agricultural fair held in Red Cloud in 1888 special premiums were offered by individuals for the oldest boy and girl born in the county, the largest family, the oldest man and woman living in the county, etc., that should attend the fair and compete for the premiums. Thomas Reed, born in 1808, D. C. Metcalf, born in 1809, Thomas Jones, born in 1812, and C. C. Coon, born in 1815, competed for the premium (a cane) offered the oldest man. Of course, Mr. Reed won the prize. Mrs. Martin, aged eighty, Mrs. Eliza Holcomb, aged seventy, and other younger ladies, competed for the cashmere dress offered "the oldest woman." The dress was awarded to Mrs. Martin. A pair of shoes offered to the oldest boy born in the county was given Herbert T. Ayers, who was born June 13, 1871, and Lulu Barber, born September 8, 1871, secured the necklace offered to the oldest girl of native birth. C. C. Coon, six feet and five inches, and L. Hummel, six feet and three inches in height of stature, competed for the hat offered to the "tallest man." Ed. McCune, five feet and three inches tall, won the high-heeled shoes offered to the shortest man. George W. Hummel, with wife and six children, William E. Jackson, wife and nine children, L. T. Munsell, wife and ten children, and John Beauchamp, with wife and twelve children, competed for the "\$5 coupon ticket" offered to the largest family. The baby-chair offered to the first married couple was awarded to Thomas Vaughn and wife who were married in October, 1872, by "Grandpap Kennedy." The album offered to the first school-teacher was awarded Mrs. Fannie (Barber) McCune, who taught in Red Cloud in June, 1871.

The reader should not construe these "first things" concerning the individuals at the fair as being strictly the first things in the county, but the first occurrences in connection with the persons attending the fair and competing for the premiums.

In November, 1877, the Red Cloud Chief published the following:

"Hurrah for the sod-house aristocracy of Nebraska! A quarter of a century hence, young men will say with pride that they commenced life in a sod-house, and before the next centennial, those that can say that their ancestors dwelt in these humble habitations, will be considered 'The first families in Nebraska.' A future president of the United States may now be tumbling around on a dirt floor in a sod-house. In the campaign preceding his election, sod-house songs may become as common as the log-cabin songs were, in the days of 'Tippecanoe and Tyler too,' and instead of log-cabins we may have a picture of a sod-house, and the future president cutting and carrying sods to finish the roof."

The best evidence of the patriotism of the citizens of Webster County consists in the fact that they have annually celebrated the birthday of their country. On July 4, 1871, the first year after the settlement of the county began, the pioneers of the settlements of Guide Rock and Red Cloud met at Dry Creek, about three miles east of the site of Red Cloud, and held a "picnic." They were having an enjoyable time in the old-fashioned way, when their festivities were interrupted and a cloud of sadness was thrown over them, by the first killing of a mortal by his fellow-man within the county. Suddenly rushed upon them the news that Richard Bowbier had shot and killed William Hicks on Ash Creek, south of the Republican River. The parties had quarreled about some timber. A coroner's jury was empaneled at the celebration, an inquest was held over the body, and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered. Bowbier was arrested and afterward tried for the offense, and acquitted on the ground of self-defense. This sad incident, however, did not dampen the ardor of the citizens in keeping up their celebrations on the annual return of the natal day.

A Fourth-of-July celebration was held in Red Cloud in 1872, and nearly every year since the people have met there to celebrate the day. At all events there has not a year passed since 1871, without a celebration on the nation's birthday somewhere in Webster County.

The celebration of 1872 deserves special men-

tion. It was a celebration of pioneer settlers, nearly all of whom, in Webster County, were present, and many came from the adjoining country in Nebraska, and from Jewell and Smith Counties in Kansas. A dance having been advertised, young men, and others not so young, brought their "best girls," from far and near, with ox teams. A bowery, for the celebration and dance, was constructed a little north and west of where the Red Cloud National Bank now stands. The boards for the floor were sawed on the pioneer saw-mill at Guide Rock, from cottonwood timber. William Laird was one of the fiddlers at the dance. Joseph Holcomb, one of the dancers, having no fine boots, wore a pair of moccasins, and experienced difficulty in "shuffling" on the cottonwood floor.

Lee S. Estell, an attorney, who arrived in the spring of 1872, delivered the oration. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the jovial rollickers of the frontier were busily engaged in "tripping the light fantastic toe," a herd of buffaloes were stampeded through or near the town by some hunters. This broke up the dance for a little while, the male dancers leaving the bowery to chase the bison. Some, who had saddle horses, mounted their steeds in hot haste and pursued the frightened animals. One buffalo was killed, and a man in attempting to lasso a calf lost his balance and fell forward from his horse on to the calf, caught it in his arms and secured it. After the buffaloes fled and the dancers had a sufficiency of that sport—their best girls looking on and enjoying it equally as well—they, unlike the soldiers in the dance at Brussels on the outbreak of the battle of Waterloo, returned to the bowery and went on with the dance, their joy unconfined. This was a celebration on the frontier of civilization, having festivities connected with it that could be had nowhere in the rear of the front line. The part taken in it by the wild beasts was not voluntary, and consequently not enjoyable, but their presence added much to the joy of the people present. Not many can attend celebrations on the Fourth of July and chase the buffalo at the same time.

Extraordinary efforts were made for the Centennial celebration, held in Red Cloud, on July 4,

1876, and it being at the close of the first century of our National existence, and only five years after the inception of Webster County, it merits particular mention.

The celebration was a glorious success. The day was all that could be desired. Early in the morning wagons came pouring in from all directions, until something like twelve hundred people were assembled on the grounds. The various parts of the county were never better represented in Red Cloud. Several bands were on the ground and furnished abundant music. The exercises began about half past ten, A. M., with a voluntary from a band, which was followed by a song from the choir. Then came the prayer, short and eloquent, by Rev. Dr. Elliott. Father Brice, one of the oldest men in the county, and among the earliest band of settlers, read the Declaration of Independence. More singing by the choir was followed by the oration of Hon. J. S. Gilham. After dinner, historical sketches of Potsdam, Inavale, Walnut Creek, Stillwater and Red Cloud were read.

The historians were, respectively, Mr. Snow, Mr. Knight, R. B. Fulton, Abraham Wells and William Jackson, of these precincts. At night there was a display of fireworks, and the celebration ended with dancing away the "still small hours of the night." All were happy and glad that they were permitted to celebrate the close of the first and the beginning of the second century of National life. Hon. J. S. Gilham closed his able and interesting address with the following paragraph:

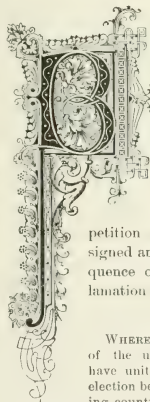
"The century that is setting to-day to rise no more, leaves us infinitely in advance of our forefathers in material progress. With all honor and deference to the illustrious dead, we are not behind them in morals, not behind them in integrity, not behind them in the energy and heroism that are necessary to a nation's life. Strengthened by past victories, conscious of undiminished manhood, following that Divine guidance which has been our cloud and our pillar in the century that has passed, let us advance boldly and hopefully into the century to come."



CHAPTER XXIV.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION—FORMATION FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY—PROCLAMATION—ELECTION AND RESULT—FIRST OFFICIALS CHOSEN—THE EARLIEST SESSION OF COMMISSIONERS—SUBSEQUENT TRANSACTIONS—PUBLIC BUILDINGS—SUB-DIVISION AND PRECINCTS—RAILROADS—TAXATION, BONDS, ETC.—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—RULES OF BUSINESS OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS—COUNTY OFFICIALS—FINANCIAL PRESENTATION—ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION—AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE—PRODUCTIVE QUALITIES OF SOIL—AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—JUDICIAL HISTORY—PRESENT LEGAL BAR—HOMICIDES.

So from the first eternal order ran,
And creature link'd to creature, man to man. —*Pope.*



BEFORE the organization of Webster County, the territory now composing it formed a part of Jefferson County. The preliminary steps toward its organization were taken at meetings held in the dug out residence of Silas Garber. A

petition to the Governor was drawn, signed and delivered to him, in consequence of which the following proclamation was issued:

STATE OF NEBRASKA,)
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER. (

WHEREAS, a large number of the citizens of the unorganized county of Webster have united in a petition asking that an election be called for the purpose of choosing county officers preliminary to the organization of said county:

Therefore, I, William A. James, Acting-Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby order that an election be held at the dwelling-house of Silas Garber, in Red Cloud, in said county, on Wednesday, April 19, 1871, for the purpose of choosing three County Commissioners, one County Clerk, one County Treasurer, one Sheriff, one Probate Judge, one

County Surveyor, one County Superintendent of Schools, one Coroner, three Judges of Election; and I do hereby designate and appoint James Calvert, Peter Head and William McBride as Judges to conduct said election, in accordance with the act for the organization of counties, approved June 24, 1867, and the election laws of the State.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska. Done at Lincoln this tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

WM. H. JAMES, *Acting-Governor.*

WM. H. JAMES, *Sec. State.*

The election was accordingly held, and the question of the location of the site for the county seat was also voted upon. The returns showed the following result:

For county seat: The east half of the north east quarter of Section 2, Township 1 north, Range 11 west, of the sixth principal meridian, 45 votes. For county commissioners: Peter Head, Joseph Garber and William Fennimore, 38, 37 and 19 votes, respectively; Silas Garber, for probate judge, 43 votes; William A. Brice, for county treasurer, 42 votes; Thomas B. Williams, for county clerk, 40 votes; Donald McCallum, for county surveyor, 37 votes; William B. Jackson, for county superintendent of schools, 37 votes; Emanuel Peters, for

sheriff, 37 votes; George M. Taylor, for assessor, 36 votes; Albert Lathrop and William McBride, for constable, 35 and 36 votes, respectively; Peter Head, for coroner, 39 votes; Finis E. Penney and Joseph Garber, for justices of the peace, 37 and 39 votes, respectively; Peter Head, William McBride and James Calvert, for judges of election, each six votes; Mervin Thomas and W. H. Brice, for clerks of election, each six votes.

At the time of this election the territory of the county was all in one precinct. The settlements thus far made were mostly in, along, and adjacent to the Republican Valley, and Red Cloud was the most central and the most convenient place for the holding of this, the first election in the county. The whole number of votes cast was 45, and the persons named above were elected to the offices indicated.

On the evening of the day of the election, the votes were canvassed in the room where the election was held, by the election board. There was only one chair in the room, and that was given up to William H. Brice, who was then upward of eighty years of age. The others provided themselves with seats by up-ending sticks of fire-wood. The returns were made out, and Dr. Thomas B. Williams and E. Edson were appointed to take them to the Governor at Lincoln. Commissions were then issued by the Governor to the officers elected.

On May 20, following, Peter Head, Joseph Garber and William Fennimore, the county commissioners elected, met in the office of the county clerk, in Red Cloud, with Thomas B. Williams, the county clerk elect, and held their first session as such officers. They approved the election returns, and the official bonds of Messrs. William H. Brice, Silas Garber, Emanuel Peters, Donald McCallum, George Taylor, Finis Penney, Albert Lathrop and Joseph Garber. They also divided the county into three commissioners' districts, as follows: No. 1, to contain all that portion of the county lying east of the middle of Range 10 west; No. 2, to contain all lands in the west half of Range 10, and whole of Range 11; No. 3, to contain all lands within the county in

Range 12. A petition was then presented by Osborn Ayers and others for the establishment of a public road, "commencing at the Kansas State line to cross the Republican River at the Rock Bluff, on Section 15, and to intersect the State line road at the dividing section, corner of Sections 10 and 11." William Pettit and — Hardy were appointed commissioners to locate it. The county commissioners then adjourned to the July regular session.

At this, the second session of the county commissioners, held in July, 1871, the county was divided into road districts as follows: District No. 1 was made to embrace all that part of the county lying east of the dividing line between Ranges 9 and 10 west; District No. 2 was made to contain all the lands in the county lying in Range 10 and the east half of Range 11; District No. 3 was made to include all the lands in the county lying west of District No. 2. Road supervisors were then appointed as follows: William McBride for the First, Charles Gurney for the Second, and John Tomlinson for the Third district. At the same time the county was divided into three precincts. Guide Rock Precinct was made to contain all that part of the county in Range 9, and the east one-third of Range 10. Red Cloud Precinct was made to embrace the west two-thirds of Range 10 and the whole of Range 11 within the county. Walnut Creek Precinct was made to include all of Range 12 within the county.

September 11, 1871, the county commissioners, being then in session, ordered that an election should be held in the several precincts of the county on the 19th day of the same month, for the submission of the adoption or rejection of the proposed new State constitution.

The first regular election in the county, after its organization, was held October 10, 1871, and resulted in the election of Peter Head, Joseph Garber and Allen T. Ayers, county commissioners; T. B. Williams, clerk; Silas Garber, judge; W. E. Jackson, treasurer; James Calvert, sheriff; Donald McCallum, surveyor; Edward Kellogg, superintendent of schools, and Dr. Peter Head, coroner. On the same day a majority of the electors voted

to authorize the county commissioners to issue bonds in the sum of \$2,000, for the erection of county buildings. In accordance therewith, the bonds were afterward issued. Following the organization of the county, the dug-out residence of Silas Garber continued for some months to be used for the court house and county offices. The residence of Mr. Garber was built by digging a hole in the ground, then laying logs around on the banks, three or four feet high, and then putting on a dirt roof. This historic structure—the home of the man who, in less than four years thereafter, became the Governor of Nebraska—was located on the east side of what is now Webster Street, on the bank by the creek just north of the culvert on the street. The county offices were, some time during the year, moved to a small log building which stood on the northwest corner of Webster and Third Avenue, and on April 16, 1872, were removed to a frame store building just completed by Silas Garber, and bought by the county commissioners for the sum of \$250, out of the county bond fund. This was the first building owned by the county. It stood near the southeast corner of Webster Street and Fourth Avenue, and continued to be used by the county until the present court-house was erected, in 1878. This court-house stands on the center of Block 12, in the city of Red Cloud. It is a two-story frame building, with rooms for county offices, on the first floor, and the court-room on the second. It was constructed by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, for and in consideration of the release of all the taxes that had accrued on their lands within the county prior to the year 1877. The company disputed the payment of these taxes, but proposed to build the court-house for the county in consideration of a complete release from their payment, and the county commissioners accepted the proposition. The particulars of this matter are too long and uninteresting for recital here. It is said that the court-house cost \$4,000.

In January, 1873, Webster County was again subdivided into road districts as follows: No. 1 embraced all lands lying north of the Republican River, in Townships 1 and 2 north of the base line,

in Range 9 west; No. 2 included all the lands lying north of the Republican River, in Townships 1 and 2 north, Range 10 west; No. 3 contained all the lands north of the Republican River, in Townships 1 and 2 north, Range 11 west; No. 4 was composed of all lands north of the Republican River, in Townships 1 and 2 north, Range 12 west; No. 5 contained all of Range 9 and the east one-third of Range 10, in Townships 3 and 4, north; No. 6 included the west one-third of Range 11 and the whole of Range 12, in Townships 3 and 4 north; No. 7 embraced the west two-thirds of Range 10 and the east two-thirds in Range 11, in Townships 3 and 4 north, lying between Districts 5 and 6; No. 8 covered all the lands in the county lying south of the Republican River, in Range 9, and the east one-third of Range 10, in Township 1 north; No. 9 included all the lands south of the Republican River, in the west two-thirds of Range 10, and the east two-thirds of Range 11, in Township 1 north; No. 10 contained all that part of the county lying south of the Republican River and west of District No. 9. These districts embraced the entire area of the county. This was the first subdivision of the county into road districts. Since then to meet the requirements of the increased population the districts have from time to time been changed—reduced in size and new ones created.

At the time the county was first subdivided into road districts, the following new precincts were organized: Oak Creek Precinct was made to include Township 4 north, Ranges 9 and 10 west, the north half of Township 3, Range 9, and Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in Township 3, Range 10; Harmony Precinct was made to contain Township 4, Ranges 11 and 12, and the north half of Township 3, Range 12; Red Cloud Precinct was made to embrace all of Range 11, and the west two-thirds of Range 10, in Townships 1, 2 and 3 north; Batin Precinct was also formed in 1873, and subsequently, from time to time, the old precincts were reduced in size, and new ones created to suit the convenience and demands of the increasing population. The civil political divisions of the county continued to be called precincts until the year 1885, when township organization—which will be explained

elsewhere—was adopted for the government thereof. The name precinct was then dropped and township substituted.

The county is now subdivided into civil or political townships, with names and descriptions as follows. In most cases the civil townships correspond with the Congressional townships, according to the following statement: Guide Rock, Town 1 north, Range 9 west; Beaver Creek, Town 2 north, Range 9 west; Stillwater, Town 3 north, Range 9 west; Oak Creek, Town 4 north, Range 9 west; Potsdam, Town 4 north, Range 10 west; Elm Creek, Town 3 north, Range 10 west; Pleasant Hill, the east five-sixths of Town 2 north, Range 10 west, and the east five-sixths of Town 1 north, Range 10 west, lying north of the Republican River; Garfield, all lying south of the Republican River in Town 1 north, Range 10 west; Line, all lying south of the Republican River in Town 1 north, Range 11 west; Red Cloud, all of Range 11 west, and the west tier of sections in Range 10 west, in Town 2 north, and all lying directly south thereof and north of the Republican River, excepting the city of Red Cloud; Batin, Town 3 north, Range 11 west; Glenwood, Town 4 north, Range 11 west; Harmony, Town 4 north, Range 12 west; Catherton, Town 3 north, Range 12 west; Inavale, Town 2 north, Range 12 west; Walnut Creek, Town 1 north, Range 12 west.

The Burlington & Missouri River, or Republican Valley Railroad, was completed through Webster County from Hastings on the north; south by way of Blue Hill and Cowles, to Amboy, in the Republican Valley; thence west up the valley by way of Red Cloud and Inavale, in the fall of 1878. About two years afterward the road was extended down the valley, by way of Guide Rock, to Superior and other points to the eastward. The length of this railroad, as it extends east and west through the county along the Republican River, is 24.56 miles, and its length from Amboy to the northern boundary of the county is 19.23 miles, making its entire length within the county 43.79 miles. The Nebraska & Colorado Railroad passes east and west through the county, in the northern tier of townships, by way of Blue Hill and Bladen, its

length therein being 26.03 miles. The Missouri Pacific Railroad cuts across the northeast corner of the county for a distance of 0.15 miles. These are all the completed railroads within this territory, and their combined length gives it 69.97 miles of railway. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad is valued for taxation at \$5,600 per mile, or \$245,224 in the aggregate.

The total amount of tax charged thereon in Webster County, for the year 1889, was \$9,868.21. The Nebraska & Colorado Railroad was valued in 1889 for taxation, at \$4,700 per mile, or \$122,341 in the aggregate, and the total tax charged thereon was \$4,554.79. For the same year the Missouri Pacific Railroad, within the county, was valued for taxation at the rate of \$4,100 per mile, making the aggregate \$615, on which a total tax of \$22.99 was charged. This makes the combined taxable valuation of all the railroads within the county, \$368,180, and the total taxes charged thereon, \$14,445.99. Thus it will be seen, by reference to the total taxable wealth of the county and the amount of taxes charged thereon, as shown elsewhere in this work, that the railroads constitute a very considerable portion of the taxable property, and pay a considerable portion of the taxes. The Pullman Palace Car Company was also assessed, in 1889, at the rate of \$75.05 per mile on the main line of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad through the county, and was charged \$79.32 taxes in the aggregate.

All of these railroads, excepting the Burlington & Missouri River, were built without aid from the county. In April, 1878, the board of county commissioners ordered a special election to be held at the several voting places in the county on May 4, following, to ascertain the sense of the people on the following question: "Shall the county commissioners of the county of Webster, in the State of Nebraska, for the purpose of aiding in the construction of the Republican Valley Railroad, from a point on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in Nebraska, at or near Hastings in Adams County, to a point on the Republican Valley in Webster County, at or near Red Cloud, issue the bonds of said county to the amount of \$47,500?

Said bonds to bear date January 1, 1879, and to be payable to the Republican Valley Railroad Company, or bearer, at the expiration of fifteen years from the date thereof, and to bear interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from and after the date thereof, payable annually to bearer on interest coupons attached thereto, and interest payable at the office of the treasurer of said county of Webster."

A statement of the conditions on which the bonds were to be issued then followed, in substance as follows: That the work of constructing the road should begin by the 1st of July, 1878; that the bonds should not be delivered until the road should be complete and the cars running thereon over its whole length; that the road should be completed and the cars running through the county of Webster by July 1, 1879; that a station should be established at or near the northern boundary of the county, and another station between that point and the station of Red Cloud; that the bonds should not be delivered unless this was the first railroad built from the northern boundary of the county to the Republican Valley; that, should the said road be built up the Republican Valley, another station should be erected at or near the center of Range 12. Other conditions pertaining to the levy of taxes by the county followed.

The election was accordingly held, and on the 7th of May the county commissioners canvassed the returns and found that the question pertaining to the issue of the bonds had been answered in the affirmative by 748 votes, and in the negative by 242 votes—more than two-thirds of the voters, as required by law, having voted in the affirmative.

Afterward, on February 26, 1879, the board of county commissioners, finding the conditions upon which the bonds were to be issued fully complied with, made the following order upon the record of their proceedings: "That the said county of Webster do hereby issue its bonds to the amount of \$47,500 to the Republican Valley Railroad Company, and that the chairman of said board of county commissioners, on behalf of the said county of Webster, be and he is hereby authorized to sign, execute, issue and deliver to said railroad

company said bonds, and the county clerk of said county is hereby authorized to countersign said bonds and attach the seal of said county to the same. And the said bonds so issued and delivered shall be a binding obligation upon said county."

In accordance with this order, the bonds were issued and delivered, and they are still outstanding, not being due until the year 1894. The railroads of the county now pay taxes annually to an amount of nearly one-third of the county's indebtedness on railroad bonds.

From the county's organization until the year 1885, the court doing county business consisted of three county commissioners, elected at large by the electors of the county—one from each of the three commissioners' districts, which extended from the northern to the southern boundary of the county. As the early settlements were mostly made along the Republican River, it followed that the south end of each commissioner's district was by far the most populous, and as an almost natural consequence the commissioners were for the greater part of the time selected from the southern part of the county, thus leaving the northern part without a representative on the board. This led to jealousy on the part of the electors in the northern portion of the county. The bridges across the Republican River were built at the expense of the whole county, while the people of the northern half seldom had occasion to use them, and many tax-payers had the impression that township organization would relieve them from helping to build bridges outside of the township in which they resided, this having been the law in States from which they emigrated. This impression, however, was erroneous, as the county, and not the townships, still continues to build the bridges. Others thought that a "change" would be better—that it would probably be better for each township to have a representative on the board doing county business. Consequently, on October 15, 1885, the following petition was presented to the court doing county business:

We, the undersigned, being legal voters of Webster County, Neb., do respectfully petition that the question of Township Organization, under Article IV, Chapter 18,

of the Statutes of Nebraska, be submitted to the voters of said county at the next general election to be held therein—the votes to be by ballot—to be written or printed, or partly written or partly printed, as follows:

For Township Organization.

Against Township Organization.

The votes to be canvassed and returned in like manner as votes for county officers. Notice thereof to be given and posted in connection with the notice of the said general election to be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in the month of November, A. D. 1885.

This petition was signed by E. H. Cox, A. B. Caulfield, F. A. Sweezy, E. B. Tuttle, S. S. Wells, and 123 others. The prayer of the petition was granted, and the question of township organization submitted to the people accordingly. On the 18th of November the supervisors elect assembled at the court house and organized temporarily, by electing C. G. Wilson as chairman, and R. V. Shirey as clerk. The following-named gentlemen then presented the certificate of George O. Geiser, county judge, showing that each had filed his official bond as supervisor of Webster County, as follows: Charles Gust, Line Precinct; J. M. Stoddard, Walnut Creek Precinct; A. J. Kenney, First Ward of Red Cloud City; C. G. Eustis, Batin Precinct; Joseph Garber, Red Cloud Precinct; Charles Hunter, Inavale Precinct; J. C. Brooks, Catherton Precinct; James Groves, Stillwater Precinct; Robert V. Shirey, Second Ward, Red Cloud City; S. W. Fulton, Harmony Precinct; John Street, Garfield Precinct; C. G. Wilson, Potsdam Precinct; T. C. Wilder, Pleasant Hill Precinct; B. M. Jones, Oak Creek Precinct; I. B. Hampton, Guide Rock Precinct; William A. Ryker, Beaver Creek Precinct; W. H. Howe, Elm Creek Precinct. A permanent organization of the new supervisors' court was then completed by the election of C. G. Wilson as chairman, and R. V. Shirey was elected temporary clerk, to act in the absence of the county clerk. A committee of nine was then appointed on the re-division of the county and naming of townships. The following day the committee made this report:

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:—Your committee, appointed to divide the county into townships and give their boundary lines and names, beg leave to report that they have given the subject careful consideration,

and recommend the division to be as now formed by precincts, and such townships to bear the names as designated by the precincts, as follows: Guide Rock Township, Beaver Creek Township, Stillwater Township, Oak Creek Township, Garfield Township, Pleasant Hill Township, Elm Creek Township, Potsdam Township, Line Township, Red Cloud Township, Batin Township, Glenwood Township, Walnut Creek Township, Inavale Township, Catherton Township, Harmony Township, City of Red Cloud. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed, C. Gust, A. J. Kenney, I. B. Hampton, T. G. Wilder, John Street, Charles Hunter, Joseph Garber, J. M. Stoddard, R. V. Shirey.

The report was approved and adopted by a vote of twelve yeas to three nays. The only change effected by the action of this committee was that of substituting "township" for "precinct." Since that time the court doing county business has been composed of supervisors, one being elected in each civil township and two from the city of Red Cloud. There being sixteen townships, this makes the board of supervisors consist of eighteen members. Under this system the county has to pay eighteen men to do the work formerly done by three. Hence it is much more expensive than the old system; besides there being so many of them, each one can not feel the same responsibility that each member of a court composed of only three persons would feel. The people are conscious of the extra burden, and a strong sentiment is growing up in favor of the former method of doing county business.

On February 7, 1890, the board of supervisors adopted the following rules of business:

- 1st. All members are required to meet punctually at the hour of meeting for business.
- 2d. The minutes of regular and special meetings shall be read for correction and approved at the first regular meeting convened.
- 3d. All claims and accounts against the county shall be sworn to and filed with the clerk before any action will be taken.
- 4th. All business coming before the board shall be read and presented by the clerk.
- 5th. All business, after being presented to the board, shall be referred to the proper committees by the chairman.
- 6th. Any member aggrieved by a decision of

the chair, shall have his redress by an appeal from the chair to the members of the body.

7th. An appeal from the decision of the chair shall be sustained by a majority of all members present.

8th. In order to carry any question, it shall be necessary for a majority of the members present to vote in affirmative.

9th. The ayes and nays may be called for by any member of the body on any question.

10th. To suspend a rule, it requires a two-thirds vote in the affirmative.

11th. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on any one question.

Below will be found the names of Webster County officials, together with dates of terms of service, from its organization to the present writing:

County Commissioners: Peter Head and Joseph Garber, 1871-73; William Fennimore, 1871; Allen T. Ayres, 1872-73; A. M. Hardy, 1873-74; G. W. Ball, 1874-79; Frank Mattison, 1874-76; A. M. Hardy, 1875-76; I. H. Hobert, 1877-78; L. H. Luce, 1877-80; A. H. Crary, 1879-81; Isaac May, 1880-82; Hugh Stevenson, 1881-83; James E. Smith, 1882-84; Jacob L. Miller, 1883-85; John McCallum, 1884-85; Isaiah P. Hampton, 1885.

Board of Supervisors for 1886: C. G. Wilson, of Potsdam, chairman; A. J. Kenney and R. V. Shirey, Red Cloud City; Joseph Garber, Red Cloud Township; W. H. Howe, Elm Creek; J. C. Brooks, Catherton; John Street, Garfield; Carl Gust, Line; T. G. Wilder, Pleasant Hill; Isaiah B. Hampton, Guide Rock; C. G. Eustis, Batin; S. W. Fulton, Harmony; W. W. Hagate, Glenwood; J. M. Stoddard, Walnut Creek; Charles Hunter, Inavale; James Groves, Stillwater; B. M. Jones, Oak Creek; William A. Ryker, Beaver Creek.

Board of Supervisors for 1887: G. P. Cather, Catherton; Carl Gust, Line; D. G. Gries, Batin; Thomas Humphrey, Garfield; T. G. Wilder, Pleasant Hill; Joseph Garber, Red Cloud; Austin Reiley, Oak Creek; A. J. Worthington, Inavale; Chris Fassler, Glenwood; Peter Hill, Elm Creek; Reese B. Thompson, Beaver Creek; C. F. Cather,

First Ward, Red Cloud City; R. V. Shirey, Second Ward, Red Cloud City; J. S. Marsh, Guide Rock; Alfred McCall, Walnut Creek; S. W. Fulton, Harmony; Thomas T. Finney, Stillwater, Barney Kuhn, Potsdam; R. V. Shirey, served as chairman.

Board of Supervisors for 1888: (Townships not given in record.) A. H. Kaley, A. O. Berg, Joseph Garber, George E. Coon, I. B. Hampton, Sol. Mandelbaum, William Jones, George W. Hummel, Silas S. Wells, George P. Cather, L. D. Thomas, Mark Noble, J. L. Frame, James Groves, Austin Reiley, C. C. Cox, Chris Fassler, W. H. Barcus; George W. Hummel was chairman.

Board of Supervisors for 1889: D. McCallum, Guide Rock; W. H. Barcus, Beaver Creek; James Groves, Stillwater; W. H. Laird, Oak Creek; Jotham Martin, Potsdam; L. D. Thomas, Elm Creek; T. C. Wilder, Pleasant Hill; George E. Coon, Garfield; George W. Hummel, Line; M. F. Dickerson, First Ward, Red Cloud City; A. H. Kaley, Second Ward, Red Cloud City; Joseph Garber, Red Cloud Township; J. L. Frame, Batin; Isaac Fish, Glenwood; S. S. Wells, Harmony; George P. Cather, Catherton; E. H. Jones, Inavale; Samuel Heaton, Walnut Creek; George W. Hummel was chairman.

Board of Supervisors for 1890: D. McCallum, Guide Rock; W. H. Barcus, Beaver Creek; James Groves, Stillwater; W. C. Laird, Oak Creek; Jotham Martin, Potsdam; L. D. Thomas, Elm Creek; T. G. Wilder, Pleasant Hill; G. E. Coon, Garfield; G. W. Hummel, Line; R. L. Alyea, Red Cloud; Samuel Foe, First Ward, Red Cloud City; A. H. Kaley, Second Ward, Red Cloud City; J. L. Frame, Batin; Isaac Fish, Glenwood; S. S. Wells, Harmony; G. P. Cather, Catherton; E. H. Jones, Inavale; A. McCall, Walnut Creek; T. G. Wilder, chairman.

County Clerks: Thomas B. Williams, 1871-73; J. A. Tulleys, 1874-81; John P. Bayha, 1882-85; J. H. Bailey, 1886-89; H. D. Ranney, 1890, present incumbent.

Sheriffs: Emanuel Peters, 1871; James Calvert, 1872-73; H. G. Bill, 1874-75; J. D. Post, 1878-79; J. W. Warren, 1880-85; Henry C.

Scott, 1886-90; Charles A. Teel, present incumbent, elected in November, 1889.

Treasurers: William A. Brice, 1871; William B. Jackson, 1872-73; E. H. Jones, 1874-81; Charles Buschow, 1882-85; W. B. McNitt, 1886-89; Chris Fassler, present incumbent, elected in November, 1889.

County Judges: Silas Garber, 1871-72; James Kirkwood, 1873; I. N. Tulleys, 1874-77; J. R. Wilcox, 1878-79; C. W. Kaley, 1880; J. R. Wilcox, 1881-83; G. O. Yeiser, 1884-85; W. A. McKeighan, 1886-87; F. A. Sweezy, 1888-89; D. F. Trunkner, present incumbent, elected in November, 1889.

Coroners: Peter Head, 1871-73; L. F. Munsell, 1874-75; W. J. Fennimore, 1876-77; R. R. Sherer, 1878-83; J. M. Mosena, 1884-85; C. Schenck, present incumbent, first elected in November, 1885, has served continuously since.

Surveyors: Donald McCallum, 1871-74; W. E. Thorn, 1874-79; W. H. Strohm, 1880-81; C. P. Rinker, 1882-85; F. P. Reed, 1886-87; W. E. Thorn, present incumbent, has served since 1887.

Superintendent of Schools: Ed Kellogg, 1871-73;* H. S. Kaley, 1874-75; J. S. Gilham, 1876-77; A. A. Pope, 1878-81; Charles W. Springer, 1882-87; Miss Eva J. King, present incumbent, first elected in November, 1887.

Representatives in State Legislature: Silas Garber, 1872-76; J. E. Smith, 1877-80; H. S. Kaley, 1880, died before close of term; C. W. Kaley, 1882; H. D. Ranney, 1883-84; D. P. Newcomer, 1885-88; Isaiah B. Hampton, present incumbent, elected in November, 1888.

John S. Hoover, of Blue Hill, is the present State Senator, and Gilbert L. Laws, of McCook, represents the district in Congress.

At this point it may not be out of place to present a statement, showing the taxable valuation of the property of the county, and the amount of taxes charged annually, beginning with the year 1881 for valuations, and, with the year 1883, for taxes charged thereon.† The total taxable valuation

William B. Jackson was elected in April, 1871, but failed to qualify.

* The tax lists of the county, prior to 1886, show no recapitulation of the taxes charged.

tion of property for 1881 was \$1,002,066.59, and for 1882 it was \$1,050,232.50. In 1883 the real property of the county was assessed at \$633,476.01 and the personal property at \$699,533.35, a total of \$1,333,009.36, on which the whole amount of taxes charged, for all purposes, was \$80,660.86.

In 1884 the real property was assessed at \$1,236,064, the personal at \$964,094, total \$2,200,158, and the total taxes charged thereon was \$85,445.39.

In 1885 real property was assessed at \$1,372,073, and personal at \$1,143,599; on this total of \$2,515,672 the amount of taxes charged was \$90,135.03.

In 1886 the real property assessment of \$1,449,545, and personal property of \$1,074,273, made a total of \$2,523,818, the taxes charged reaching \$92,022.54.

In 1887 the real property was assessed at \$1,363,409, the personal at \$1,104,746; total, \$2,468,155, and the amount of taxes charged was \$94,036.38.

In 1888 the amount of taxes charged was \$94,484.60, on real property assessed at \$1,344,045, and personal at \$992,259; total, \$2,336,304.

In 1889 the real property was assessed at \$1,319,255, the personal at \$962,857; total, \$2,282,112, and the amount of taxes charged was \$98,365.09.

By proper comparison of these figures it will be seen that from 1881 to 1889 the taxable valuation of all the property of the county increased from \$1,002,066.59 to \$2,282,112, an amount more than double in value. It will also be observed that the assessed value of the property advanced from 1881 to 1886, when it reached its highest amount, that of \$2,523,818, and that from that date forward a decrease is noticeable, until 1889, when it was valued at only \$2,282,112. Does this mean that the county has retrograded and actually become less valuable? Certainly not. The county since 1886 has prospered, and its property has rapidly increased in value, but the apparent decrease, as shown by the figures, is owing to the method of assessing property for taxation, that is, the property since 1886 has been annually assessed at a lower and lower per cent of its actual value. It

has become the custom of officers in assessing property, in order to have their county pay a less proportion, or possibly to avoid paying a greater proportion of the State taxes than other counties of the State, to assess the property at a very small per cent of its real value. Upon this reasoning only can the apparent decrease of the value of the property of Webster County be accounted for. The truth is the county is rapidly increasing in property, although the public records make it appear otherwise. By closer reference to the figures, it will be seen that the taxes have constantly increased, and it is fair to presume that they have not increased in any greater proportions, if as great, as the taxable property.

The financial condition of the county, as shown by the final report of Treasurer McNitt, made January 22, 1890, was as follows:

Registered warrants unpaid for 1889, payable out of the general fund, \$2,669.58. Registered warrants unpaid for 1887, payable out of the jail fund, \$500. Registered warrants unpaid for 1889, payable out of the jail fund, \$4,400; total unpaid registered warrants, \$7,569.58. Since making this report, the most of this amount has been paid, so that there is now only a small indebtedness outstanding. The railroad bonds, mentioned elsewhere in this work, amounting to \$47,500, and not due until 1894, are still outstanding. Aside from these bonds, which are only a light burden, the county is substantially out of debt.

On January 16, 1890, the report of the committee on ways and means was approved by the board of supervisors of Webster County. The report estimated the expenses for 1890 as follows: For county superintendent, \$1,200; court expenses, \$3,000; coal and court-house, \$500; bounty on wild animals, \$300; supervisor's services, \$2,200; printing, \$400; assessments, \$2,000; special committees, \$150; coroner, \$150; attorney, \$800; incidentals, \$600; poorhouse and county poor, \$3,000; Guide Rock bridge bond, \$8,000; county roads, \$500; county insane, \$800; railroad bonds, \$10,000; total estimated expenses, \$34,400.

Webster thus far may be said to be almost exclusively an agricultural and stock-raising county.

Joseph Garber broke the first acre of land in the county, in the spring of 1871, on the place where he settled, one and a half miles east of the present village of Guide Rock. He raised 400 bushels of corn that year. Small crops were also raised the same season by a few other settlers. This was the inception of the agriculture of the county. The attention of nearly all of the first settlers was called to this business, and its subsequent increase has been rapid. The soil is best adapted to the raising of corn, next to oats and barley. It is fairly well suited to the raising of spring wheat, but it can not be said to be as productive in the growing of this grain as some other localities. It is remarkably well fitted to produce vegetables, especially root crops, all of which are raised in great abundance. One farmer says "there is no end to them." Clover, timothy and blue grass thrive exceedingly well, but on account of the great amount of native prairie grass and its nutritious quality, the farmers have not found it necessary to engage in the cultivation of the tame grasses to any considerable extent.

In 1889 the number of acres planted in Webster and their total yield of the various grains mentioned [as per bulletin No. 1, series 1890, of the State Board of Agriculture] was as follows: Corn, 60,000 acres, yield 3,000,000 bushels; wheat, 14,000 acres, yield 210,000 bushels; oats, 10,000 acres, yield 500,000 bushels; barley, 2,000 acres, yield 50,000 bushels; rye, 3,000 acres, yield 60,000 bushels; flax seed, 1,000 acres, yield 12,000 bushels; millet seed, 1,000 acres, yield 3,000 bushels; broom corn, 1,000 acres, yield 250 tons; potatoes, 2,000 acres, yield 200,000 bushels. This makes the yield per acre of the principal crops as follows: Corn 50, wheat 15, oats 50, barley 25, rye 20 and potatoes 100 bushels. According to these figures, all of which are official and reliable, there are but few States that can equal Nebraska in agriculture.

On account of the Republican River and the various smaller streams in the county, the ease of obtaining an abundant supply of water, the great amount of feed, and the dry and healthy climate, Webster County is unexcelled for stock-raising. The following figures, taken from the same official

bulletin above referred to, show the number of animals assessed for taxation in Webster County in the year 1889: Horses, 6,959; cattle, 21,583; mules and asses, 600; sheep, 3,650; hogs, 19,282. Some men make a specialty of raising fine horses, while others devote important attention to large herds of cattle and many hogs. The low price of wool keeps the farmers from entering exclusively upon the sheep industry, but for this business no country is better adapted.

But little attention as yet has been paid to horticulture. This has been due to the false impression obtained here that the country was not adapted to fruit growing, and to the additional fact that the early settlers were generally too poor to purchase trees. A few farmers, however, have tried the experiment and find that hardy apple-trees of the varieties adapted to this climate, and the same of plums, pears and cherries, when properly planted, fenced from stock, and suitably cared for, do exceedingly well. Peaches do not succeed, but nearly all kinds of small fruits yield an abundant reward to the husbandman. "Roses have thorns and silver fountains mud," and all localities have their advantages and disadvantages. The advantages more completely overbalance the disadvantages in Nebraska than in many other States. It has the advantages of a healthful climate, moderate winters, with abundance of sunshine, delightful summers, good roads at all seasons, abundance of crops and many other good things, in thinking of which the minor disadvantages of high winds, dust, distance from market, etc., are almost lost sight of.

The Webster County Agricultural Society was organized in September, 1873, with A. M. Talbott, president, and James M. Baldwin and James LeDuc, vice-presidents. The first exhibition was held on October 22 and 23 following, and it was a grand success. There was a good display of all kinds of farm products, which compared favorably in quality and in the yield with any other part of the State. For the first few years the fairs were held in different buildings in Red Cloud, and then the society purchased and fitted up a "fair-ground" on the school section east of town, where the ex-

hibitions were given until the buildings were blown down in the cyclone of 1879. Then, for a time, no exhibitions were given. The society sold its old fair ground, and, on February 28, 1885, it purchased its present grounds, which consist of twenty-eight acres, and lie half a mile west of the city. These grounds are inclosed with a good fence and are fitted up with a race-track, a grandstand, floral hall and judges' stand, all in good style.

The courts of the county consist of the board of supervisors, of which full mention has been made, the county court, and the district court. The county court was established under the name of probate court, November 16, 1871, and continued under that name until 1875, when it was changed to the present name. For the judges of this court see "County Officers."

The first term of the district court, in Webster County, was held June 6, 1873, with Judge Daniel Gantt presiding; A. J. Weaver was the district attorney. The county then belonged to the first judicial district; it now belongs to the Eighth. Judge Gantt continued in office until 1876, when he was succeeded by Judge William Gastin, the present incumbent, who has held the office ever since.

The first attempt at a legal trial was that of a man named King, who was arrested and brought before the county commissioners for trial on the charge of selling liquor without a license. The matter was commenced in earnest, but the commissioners soon found they had no authority to try the case, and the matter was dropped.

The first real law suit in the county was in the spring of 1872, and was a suit for debt, *Rutherford vs. Fennimore*. The trial was before Justice of the Peace Penney, at his home on the south side of the river, opposite Red Cloud. The attorneys were Hon. H. S. Kaley for the plaintiff, and J. R. Wilcox for the defendant. Wilcox's client was beaten, and he being an energetic young man, just starting out in his profession, started for Red Cloud at once to appeal the case to the district court. It was cold weather, in early spring, and the river was flooded, but he had no way to cross but to swim,

and swim he did, though he became so numb that it was with difficulty he reached the shore. Besides it was a very dark night, and, stupified with cold, he lost his way, and came near perishing before he reached the dug-out where he and Silas Garber lived and did their own housekeeping.

The first grand jury empaneled at the first term of the district court was composed of the following gentlemen: J. L. Columbia, Edward Smith, Columbia Harris, L. S. Miller, A. T. Reed, E. O. Doyle, M. C. Sherman, J. J. Haskins, Thomas Kennedy, C. C. Coon, J. P. Earl, Osborn Ayers, F. P. Reed, James Kirkwood, George B. Lea and M. C. Maxwell.

The first trial in this court was that of Thomas B. Williams (the first county clerk) *vs.* Mary E. Williams, for divorce, when a decree of divorce was granted to the plaintiff. The second case was that of Noah Perry *vs.* Elizabeth Perry, for divorce; decree granted the plaintiff. This gave the divorce business a good start. Then came appeals from lower courts. The first indictment was found against William Fennimore, for selling liquor without license. He plead guilty, and was fined \$45 and costs.

The local bar of Webster County consists of the following-named attorneys: A. C. Case, James McNewy, G. R. Chaney, D. S. Coombs, J. R. Wilcox, G. W. Barker, J. S. Gilham, F. R. Gump, J. L. Kaley, C. W. Kaley, W. G. Smith, D. F. Trunkey, J. Porter, Jr., and J. A. Tulleys, of Red Cloud; A. M. Walters, P. A. Wells, F. A. Sweezy, D. P. Newcomer and A. D. Ranney, of Blue Hill; J. M. Chaffin, of Guide Rock, and H. L. Hopkins, of Cowles.

The first homicide in the county was the killing of William Hicks, on Ash Creek, by Richard Bowbier on July 4, 1871, of which mention has already been made. Bowbier was arrested and taken to Beatrice, where he was afterward tried and acquitted on the ground of self-defense.

In the spring of 1884, William O. Cox killed a

man by the name of Tobin, at Blue Hill, with a billiard cue. Tobin lived a few days after receiving the injury. Cox was arrested and brought to Red Cloud, where he waived a preliminary trial, and was then taken to Lincoln for safe keeping. He was brought back and tried at the next term of court, was found guilty of manslaughter and was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years.

On November 1, 1884, Joseph Cook, who was working for Leonard Rahl, a farmer, living two miles southwest of Blue Hill, killed the latter. Cook was afterward captured by Sheriff J. W. Warren, at St. Joseph, Mo., and brought back to Blue Hill, where he had a preliminary trial and was bound over to court. After the trial and rendering of the decision, a mob of lynchers took the prisoner from the sheriff, and conveyed him to a point about a mile north of the town and there hung him to a windmill, and then dispersed, thinking they had killed him. As soon as permitted, the sheriff cut his prisoner down and carried him back to Blue Hill where the doctors examined him and found the neck not broken, and life not wholly extinct. They at once set to work and succeeded in reviving him. He was then taken to Red Cloud, where he was kept until he was able for further removal, and was then taken to Lincoln for safe keeping. At the next term of court he was brought back, and tried and was found guilty of murder in the second degree, and received a sentence in the penitentiary for and during his natural life.

In August, 1888, William Cole, a drunken desperado, fired five shots from his revolver across the street in Guide Rock into a crowd of men, and wounded Charles Grant and William Montgomery—both of whom recovered. This happened on Friday night. Cole was arrested and confined in the village prison, and on Sunday night he was taken therefrom by a mob of lynchers and was hung by them, until he was dead, at the first railroad bridge east of town.

CHAPTER XXV.

RED CLOUD, THE COUNTY SEAT—HISTORICAL REVIEW—LOCATION AND NAME—EXISTENCE IN 1870—COMMERCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS—DEVELOPMENT—ADDITIONS—CYCLONE—PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS—INCORPORATION—PRESENT BUSINESS—EVIDENCES OF THE CITY'S SPIRIT—NEWSPAPER PRESS—SECRET AND BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATIONS—FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENT.

The land was beautiful:

Fair rose the spires, and gay the buildings were.—*Maturin.*

RED CLOUD, the county seat of Webster County, is situated a mile north of the Republican River on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in Nebraska. It is six miles from the southern boundary of the county, thirteen from the eastern, and eleven from the western. The location is a very pleasant one on a natural terrace, sloping gradually toward the river, and the city is about midway between the river and the bluffs that ascend to the upland prairies on the north. The average elevation of the town site is at least thirty feet above the river. It derives its name from the famous Sioux chief, Red Cloud, who, prior to the settlement by the white people, held his war councils on what is now the town site.

The history of Red Cloud begins with the settlement of Capt. Silas Garber, and others, in 1870. The site of the town was entered under the homestead laws July 17, 1870. In August a stockade was built, that the settlers might protect themselves against the Indians. Among the first settlers were ex-Gov. Silas Garber, Dr. Peter Head, Albert Lathrop, George M. Taylor, W. E. Jack-

son, James Calvert, Dr. T. B. Williams, Wheeler Wicks, A. H. Boat, D. Hefflebower, Ed and John Parkes and L. F. Munsell. The first white women in the settlement were Mrs. W. E. Jackson and Mrs. James Calvert, who arrived with their husbands on August 9, 1870.

After the stockade, the first building was by Silas Garber, and constructed by digging a hole in the ground, then laying a few logs around the banks, and putting on a dirt roof. This dug-out became of historic importance. Mr. Garber was a widower, and lived there alone, doing his own cooking. Whenever public meetings were to be held, that was the place selected. The first county election was held in this humble habitation, and the organization of the county took place therein. Early in the spring of 1871, George M. Taylor built a log house, and opened a hotel there.

The first store in Red Cloud was opened in the spring of 1871, by Smith Brothers, and in a short time sold to Fennimore & Penney, who sold to Silas Garber in November, 1871. The first physicians were T. B. Williams and Peter Head, who were among the settlers of 1870. The first school was taught by Miss Fannie Barber, now Mrs. Edward McCune. The term of school began June 3, 1871, and the wages paid were \$12 per month. The first child born was Francis, daughter of G. M.

and Carrie Taylor, in the year 1871. The first attorney to locate in the new town was J. R. Willcox, from Brownville, Neb., who settled in July, 1871. He was soon followed by H. S. Kaley. In the fall of 1871 David Lutz started a drug store. In March, 1872, the first blacksmith shop was started in Red Cloud by Ira Sleeper, who removed from his homestead about a mile east of town, where he had a small shop for about a year before.

In the spring of 1872 Silas Garber built a stone store building, and in the summer of that year J. Q. and J. Potter erected a saw-mill in the south part of the town. In November of the same year John Parkes built a small shoe shop and commenced work therein. The original town site of Red Cloud was surveyed and laid out in October, 1872, by the county surveyor, Richard McCallum. It embraced the following described tract of land: Beginning at the corner of Sections 1 and 2 and 35 and 36, on the line between Townships 1 and 2 north, in Range 11 west; thence north 1,650 feet; thence west 1,305 feet; thence south 2,790 feet; thence east 1,657½ feet, to a corner; thence north 1,140 feet, to a corner on the town line; thence west 352 feet, to the place of beginning. All blocks, except fractional ones on the north and east sides, were made 300 feet square, and all streets, except the outside ones, on the south and west sides, were made eighty feet wide.

Williams' addition was laid out by Dr. T. B. Williams, in November, 1873. Since then, from time to time, the additions of Richardson, Smith & Moore, Le Due, Kaley & Jackson, Garber, Moore, Radcliff, Jackson, Railroad Company, Case & McNewy, Garber's second, Lutz, Yeiser, Fairview, Highland & Welch have been laid out, thus making it a much larger town on paper than on the ground. There is, however, plenty of time yet for the town to grow and cover all the ground surveyed and platted.

The above comprises nearly all the improvements made in 1872. The next year, however, the town began to grow quite rapidly, and continued to progress until the summer of 1874, when the grasshoppers came.

In July, 1873, W. L. Van Alstyne, of Juniata,

established a branch lumber yard at Red Cloud, under the management of Barney E. Swift. In 1874 there were two hotels in the town—the Valley House, by Joseph C. Warner, and the Laclede House, by William Morgan, both of which were opened in 1873—the latter succeeding the log hotel of George M. Taylor.

The first bridge in Webster County across the Republican River was constructed at Red Cloud, and completed in the fall of 1873, by Messrs. Baker, Matteny & Co., at a cost of \$7,800. In March, 1874, four spans of this bridge were washed away by floating ice. A ferry was then established by the board of county commissioners, for use until the bridge could be repaired, to be free for the use of the people from 8 o'clock a. m. to sundown, excepting on Sundays. On Sundays and after sundown, on all days, a fee of 50 cents was charged for a team and wagon, and 10 cents for a footman.

There were no church edifices in Red Cloud in 1874, but regular services were held in the town by the Methodists and Baptists.

During the fall of 1874 and the year 1875, business was dull, and the town grew but very little; but during the year 1876 there was an increased immigration to the county, and Red Cloud began again to improve, and steadily progressed until the year 1878, when the prospects for an early completion of the line of railroad brought settlers to this point in large numbers. During the years 1878 and 1879 there was a grand rush of business and professional men and mechanics here. So fast did the town settle during those two years, that the population numbered over 600.

The general storm of 1875, which did some damage in Red Cloud, is described elsewhere in this work, but the great storm that especially visited the city was that of 1879, one more in the nature of a cyclone. About 7 o'clock, on the evening of June 10, a heavy black cloud was seen in the west. Steadily approaching, it assumed a terrible aspect, rolling and tumbling in its progress. About 8 o'clock the storm burst upon Red Cloud, and lasted about three-quarters of an hour. The rain fell in torrents, and the wind blew a hurricane, ed-

dying and whirling about, blowing down some buildings and unroofing others. A great many people were blown and tumbled about until quite badly bruised, while about twenty received severe and dangerous injuries. Many buildings were leveled to the ground, and the only way their occupants were saved was by flying to their cellars. The damages amounted to many thousands of dollars. The Methodist Church was blown down; Mrs. Briggs' house blown away; Joseph Warner's livery stable torn to pieces; the Red Cloud Hotel unroofed; the front of Sherer's store blown out; the front of Putnam's store blown out and the building wrecked; the front and roof torn from the jewelry and clothing store; the Boys' Home livery barn unroofed; the windows broke from the Argus office; the front of J. G. Potter's store torn out; Mr. Gibbs' house blown away; Smith's carpenter shop ruined; C. W. Springer's house demolished; the Chief office badly racked and several hundred pounds of type pied; the roof torn from Mr. Miner's residence; Sherer's house blown from the foundation; Mr. Smith's house ruined; Reed's furniture store badly damaged; Sleeper's paint shop blown down; portions of the roof of the Boys' Home Hotel and Carr's billiard hall torn off; Beekman's and Jackson's houses badly blown around; Perin's house blown from foundation; Joseph Garber's house badly damaged; the front of McFarland's store torn out; the plow factory torn down; Dr. Tulleys' house and granaries badly blown around; Mr. Crook's house carried away; the livery stable and a number of buildings around the depot blown away. In addition, many smaller buildings in the town were overturned or demolished, and nearly all the chimneys blown down.

In September of the same year the post-office at Red Cloud was burglarized, the safe opened and about \$500 in money and some registered letters stolen. Some of the tools with which the burglars did their work were taken from Mr. Hampton's blacksmith shop.

The first brick business houses in Red Cloud were erected in 1883. These were the Miner Block, on the northwest corner of Webster Street and Third Avenue, and the block on the corner south of

the Opera House. Prior to that time Red Cloud was a wooden town. The Opera House Block was put up in 1885. Other brick buildings have been erected since 1883, so that at this writing, April, 1890, the several brick blocks combined contain 25 business fronts, three of them being occupied by banks, one by the post-office, and the others mostly with stores. There are a few brick residences, the great majority of dwellings being constructed of wood. The brick blocks are two-story buildings; the residences are from one to two stories in height, and many of them are constructed with modern architectural taste.

On August 9, 1878, the board of commissioners, upon petition of citizens of Red Cloud, declared the town incorporated within the following metes and bounds:

Commencing at the northeast corner of Smith & Moore's Addition to said town of Red Cloud; thence running south along the east line of said addition to the southeast corner thereof; thence went to the east line of Richardson's Addition to said town; thence south along the east line of said addition to the southeast corner thereof; thence west along the south line of said Richardson's Addition to the west line of Williams' Addition to said town; thence south along said east line to the northeast corner of Block 32 in Red Cloud; thence along the east line of Red Cloud to the southeast corner thereof; thence west to the northeast corner of Garber's Addition; thence south along the east line to the southeast corner thereof; thence west along the south line to the southwest corner thereof; thence north along the west line of said Garber's Addition and the west line of Red Cloud to the south line of Le Duc's Addition; thence west along the south line of said addition to the southwest corner thereof; thence north along the west line of said addition to the northwest corner thereof; thence east along the north line to the west line of Smith & Moore's Addition; thence north along said west line to the northwest corner of said Smith & Moore's Addition; thence east along the north line of Smith & Moore's Addition to the place of beginning.

The following persons were then appointed trustees of the town thus incorporated, viz.: J. L. Miller, John G. Potter, James Calvert, I. B. Hampton and W. N. Richardson.

Red Cloud is now incorporated as a city, and A. S. Marsh is mayor, T. J. Ward clerk, Henry Cook, treasurer, and G. A. Miller, marshal.

The business of Red Cloud consists of the fol-

lowing: Banks—Red Cloud National, Farmers' and Merchants', First National; hotels—Holland House, Valley House, Gardner House, Fourth Avenue Hotel; dry goods—S. F. Spokesfield, Charles Schaffnit, R. M. Martin & Son, Fred Newhouse, J. J. Ducker; groceries—B. F. Mizer, E. McFarland, Perkins & Mitchell, Hacker & Parker; drugs—Henry Cook, C. L. Cotting, L. H. Deyo; general store—Miner Bros.; hardware—Adam Morehart, Perkins & Potter, G. H. Whitson; furniture—W. L. Haines, J. W. Warren, F. V. Taylor; clothing—Charles Weiner, McNitt & Gahsba; millinery—Mrs. Spokesfield, Mrs. B. M. Young, Mrs. McBride; harness—J. L. Miller, J. O. Butler & Co., Mr. McMillen; flour, feed, etc.—Dickerson & Conover, O. Patmore; livery—Will Emigh, J. C. Holcomb, Macavoy & Co., Gilbert Brothers, F. N. Richardson; loan and real-estate offices—M. R. Bentley, Charles F. Cather, D. B. Spanogle, D. M. Platt, George O. Yeiser & Co.; boots and shoes—William Parkes, E. McFarland, Warner & Wolfanger, A. Koch; fair store—Mr. Murray; marble works—A. H. Brown; merchant tailor—Mr. Fritz-birkner; lumber and coal—R. A. Handy, Platt & Frees Company, Traders' Lumber Company; agricultural implements—H. C. Scott, Pope Brothers, A. L. Funk, G. W. Dow; buggies and wagons—C. W. Winfrey, G. W. Dow; jewelry—L. M. Vance, S. M. Seal; restaurants—J. H. Stahl & Co., J. Herbuger, Lindley; insurance—Gulliford & Co., George O. Yeiser & Co.; title abstracts—Bailey & Crone; meat markets—George Lindsey, J. A. McArthur; photograph gallery—F. Bradbrook; post office—G. W. Warren; physicians—J. W. Moraville, G. E. McKeely, L. D. Denney, I. W. Tulleys, — Damerall; dentists—H. A. Baird, J. S. Emigh; loan and real-estate brokers—T. J. Ward, Charles H. Potter, James Graves.

In addition to the foregoing, the town contains a billiard hall, three blacksmith and two paint shops, two laundries, two drinking saloons, two barber shops, a candy manufactory, a cigar manufactory, a sewing machine agency, a cider-mill and vinegar manufactory, a pump and wind mill shop, an eating house and two hotels at the railroad depot, three fruit-tree nurseries in the suburbs, and

various other industries. W. N. Richardson and Gus Roats are extensive feeders and shippers of live stock. The railroad buildings consist of a passenger and freight depot, a one fourth round house with fifteen stalls, and an eating house. Anthony Shaffer keeps the City Gardens. David Kessler and Robert Cochrane are contractors and builders. Jesse Ross and J. T. Jessen are masons and plasterers. Frank Miller and Downs & Pegg are well borers. A. N. Patmore, John Wilhelmsen and Isaac Meyers have dairy farms in the immediate vicinity of the town. The Sherwood Milling Company have extensive flouring mills two miles southwest of the town, on the Republican River. The electric plant lights the city by electricity.

The city is supplied with water by the Holyoke system, with a powerful engine, having a Holyoke pump throwing at full capacity sixteen gallons of water at each stroke, and when run at its highest speed making thirty-five strokes per minute. The stand-pipe standing on a high elevation is twelve feet in diameter and seventy feet high. Eight miles of water mains are laid through the city. Plugs and hydrants are at all the principal street corners. The water taken from the creek is taken through a fifteen-inch tiling, 400 feet from the pump house; the water is received through a filter into a large reservoir; from there it is re-filtered into a large well, twenty-five feet in diameter, 30 feet deep; from there it is pumped into the stand pipe. The pressure of the mains has shown a force of 100 pounds to the inch, and will throw a stream, as per test, to an elevation of 125 feet.

The fire department consists of a hook and ladder and hose cart companies.

The Red Cloud Chief was established in July, 1873, by C. L. Mather, who continued its publication until July 1, 1875, when he sold to M. Warner, the latter issuing it until October 19, 1876. M. L. Thomas then became owner, and after publishing it until November, 1877, he sold to Borin and Springer, but bought it back again on February 18, 1879, and attended to its publication (with the exception of about eight months when it was in the possession of David Lutz) until September 25, 1883. A. C. Hosmer, the present

editor and proprietor, then assumed charge, and has since issued it with signal success. This journal has always been, as it now is, a staunch Republican paper, devoted not only to its party, but faithfully representing the interests of the community which contributes so liberally to its support. It is the pioneer publication in the Republican Valley in Nebraska.

The Webster County Argus was established in August, 1878, by A. J. Kenney, and published by him until August 28, 1883, when he sold to the present proprietor, Mr. George J. Warren. He still continues its publication. This substantial and well-edited sheet is a six-column quarto, and politically has ever advocated Republican principles, with a care and fidelity which have contributed largely to its permanent reputation.

The Helmet, a Democratic paper, was established in 1884 by W. N. King, who afterward sold to Grant S. Ludlow; he published it until 1888, then he disposed of his interests to G. M. Plumb. In November of that year it was changed from a Democratic to a Prohibition sheet, and was published as such until November, 1889.

The Red Cloud Democrat was established in November, 1888, by T. J. Ward, who published it until June, 1889, when D. J. Myers assumed control. Soon after Myers sold an interest to his present partner, Mr. Skeen. In November, 1889, Skeen & Myers bought The Helmet and merged it into the Democrat. This firm continues the publication of The Red Cloud Democrat, which is a neatly printed, reliable six-column quarto, advocating, as its name indicates, Democratic principles.

The Red Cloud Republican was established September 14, 1888, by the Red Cloud Publishing Company, with M. A. Metzger as editor. The latter continued to occupy this position for a time, and then Dr. G. E. McKeeby, the present editor, a man of recognized worth and influence, and an able writer, took charge of the paper. This is also a six-column quarto, presents an attractive appearance, and finds a warm welcome in the many homes which it enters. It is Republican in politics. The Daily Republican, published from the same office, was started December 2, 1889.

The Webster County Alliance was established April 24, 1890, by F. P. Shields, its present editor and proprietor. It is a seven-column folio, and labors for the Democratic party and the Farmers' Alliance.

Charity Lodge No. 53, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation from the Grand Lodge, March 6, 1874, and received a charter dated September 25, 1874. The charter members were James A. Tulleys, Silas Garber, Edmund B. Smith, Henry S. Kaley, Barnabas E. Swift, Jr., Isaiah B. Hampton, James Calvert, William W. Brewer, Andrew M. Talbot, James B. Chapin, George W. Knight, Ezra H. Jones, Martin Pupka, Peter McNitt, John Slusser, Charles Reilley, Cassius L. Mather and Robert L. McCune. The first officers under the charter were James A. Tulleys, W. M.; Edmund B. Smith, S. W.; Barnabas E. Swift, J. W.; Peter McNitt, treasurer; E. H. Jones, secretary; H. S. Kaley, S. D.; James Calvert, J. D., and Martin Pupka, tiler.

The principal officers elected December 18, 1874, for the ensuing year were J. A. Tulleys, W. M.; G. W. Knight, S. W., and A. M. Talbot, J. W. Tulleys and Knight were re-elected to the same offices on December 10, 1875, and I. B. Hampton was elected junior warden. On December 1, 1876, Isaiah B. Hampton was elected W. M., H. S. Kaley, S. W., and G. W. Ball, J. W. On December 14, 1877, J. A. Tulleys was elected W. M., James Calvert, S. W. and C. W. Kaley, J. W. At this time J. A. Tulleys was junior warden of the Grand Lodge of the State, so I. B. Hampton served as W. M. the ensuing year. On December 6, 1878, James Calvert was elected W. M., R. L. Truker, S. W. and J. L. Miller, J. W. On December 26, 1879, R. L. Truker was elected W. M.; J. L. Miller, S. W., and John R. Wilcox, J. W. On December 10, 1880, J. L. Miller was elected W. M.; George W. Ball, S. W., and R. D. Jones, J. W. December 2, 1881, R. B. Fulton was elected W. M.; R. D. Jones, S. W., and M. B. McNitt, J. W. December 22, 1882, R. D. Jones was elected W. M.; M. B. McNitt, S. W., and W. H. Strohm, J. W. The time for election now being changed to

earlier in the year, on August 19, 1883, M. B. McNitt was elected W. M.; W. H. Strohm, S. W., and J. R. Wilcox, J. W. On June 6, 1884, W. H. Strohm was elected W. M.; J. R. Wilcox, S. W., and William Letson, J. W. May 22, 1885, J. R. Wilcox was elected W. M.; A. L. Funk, S. W., and R. M. Cochran, J. W. June 11, 1886, these officers were all re elected. June 3, 1887, R. M. Cochran was elected W. M.; L. H. Wallace, S. W., and William Buckbee, J. W. May 25, 1888, R. M. Cochran was elected W. M.; E. F. Highland, S. W., and C. W. Bronson, J. W. June 7, 1889, the officers now serving were elected as follows: M. B. McNitt, W. M.; C. W. Bronson, S. W., and H. W. Brewer, J. W. This lodge is well sustained, the number of members at this writing being eighty-nine. It will be observed that the charter members and nearly all the officers named were among the most prominent early settlers of the county.

Red Cloud Lodge No. 60, A. O. U. W., was organized and the following officers elected December 19, 1885: A. C. Hosmer, P. M. W.; M. Birney, M. W.; L. D. Denney, foreman; H. W. Brewer, overseer; C. E. Wood, recorder; H. W. Brewer, receiver; J. L. Miller, financier; J. M. Teachworth, guide; John Peterson, I. W.; S. M. Milligan, O. W.; J. L. Miller, M. Birney and H. W. Brewer, trustees. The lodge received its charter January 26, 1886, on which occasion it held a meeting, and finding the office of recorder vacant, elected H. W. Brewer to fill the vacancy. The officers elected first assumed their chairs on February 15, 1886. Prior thereto the deputy grand master had conducted the meetings. The charter members, in addition to the officers named, were F. A. Durrie, A. Higby, E. F. Highland, D. F. Rudd and George Trainer. On April 10, following, E. F. Highland succeeded M. Birney as master workman.

The offices of past master workman and master workman have been filled annually since the organization of the society as follows: Past Master Workman—1886, A. C. Hosmer and J. A. Tulleys; 1887, J. A. Tulleys; 1888, E. F. Highland; 1889, H. E. Pond. Master Workman—1886, M.

Birney and E. F. Highland; 1887, E. F. Highland; 1888, H. E. Pond; 1889, H. W. Brewer. The officers in full for 1890 are H. W. Brewer, P. M. W.; N. Sanford, M. W.; M. B. McNitt, F.; F. D. Martin, O.; F. V. Taylor, R.; A. Galusha, R.; D. F. Rudd, F.; H. J. Manser, G.; H. E. Shinkle, I. W.; William Potter, O. W.

In 1886 there were forty-two members, and at the close of 1887, seventy-one. In 1888 the membership decreased to sixty-nine, and in 1889 it ran down, on account of strikes on two systems of railroads, to sixty-five. At the beginning of 1890 it had reached eighty-three, and at this writing [April, 1890] it has increased to 100. In 1886 J. L. Miller was elected a trustee of the Grand Lodge of the State and served until 1889. E. F. Highland was elected grand foreman at the session of 1887, and held the office two years. Dr. L. D. Denney has been medical examiner of Red Cloud Lodge ever since its organization. The lodge has never lost a member by death. It is a very strong and prosperous lodge and ranks as the sixth in the State.

Calanthe Lodge No. 29, K. of P., was organized December 11, 1883, with the following officers: A. C. Hosmer, P. C.; M. D. Edinger, C. C.; J. L. Miller, V. C.; J. A. Tulleys, P.; A. Morhart, M. E.; R. V. Shirey, K. R. S.; G. W. Garber, M. A.; O. G. Roberts, I. G.; A. M. Zimmerman, O. G. The charter members of the lodge, in addition to the officers above named, were M. S. Marsh, W. M. Visscher, S. H. Metcalf, H. A. Watson, Frank Demerie, James M. Pryse, A. S. Marsh, E. McFarland, John R. Shirey, John Parkes, Henry Huse, Robert Damerell, William Parkes, A. J. Means, H. F. Kinsey, W. H. Strohm, A. Lauterbach, W. Mosher and E. C. Van Auken. The chief commanders of the lodge since its organization have been as follows: J. L. Miller, 1885; F. Bradbrook, 1886-87; R. D. Yeiser, 1888; A. J. Welch, 1889, and the four principal officers at this time, 1890, are as follows: A. J. Welch, P. C.; G. H. Whitson, C. C.; A. Higbie, V. C.; A. P. Howard, K. R. S. The meetings are well sustained.

The lodge rents a hall of C. L. Cotting, in

Cotting & Miller's block. Its present membership is forty-eight.

Red Cloud Camp No. 608, M. W. A., was organized May 16, 1888, and the first meeting held under charter was on the 24th day of the same month. The charter members were C. F. Casher, A. H. Brown, E. M. Perkins, R. D. Yeiser, J. C. Warner, T. W. Thornburg, C. L. Cotting, L. H. Wallace, J. L. Miller, G. E. McKeeby, L. A. Albright, F. V. Taylor, O. C. Brubaker, John Story, G. H. Whitson, Charles Palmer, M. A. Fisher, A. P. Howard, L. H. Fort, F. Bradbrook and John R. Richards. The membership of this society has been as high as fifty-one, but is some less than that at this writing.

A lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized some years ago in Red Cloud, and flourished for a time, and finally forfeited its charter. Efforts are now being made for the establishment of a new lodge of this order.

James A. Garfield Post, G. A. R., was organized September 26, 1881, in Fearn's Hall at Red Cloud. The mustering officer, Asst. Adj. Gen. Cook, was present and mustered the following named recruits: Jacob L. Miller, Joseph Garber, Isaiah B. Hampton, H. B. Simons, Elijah Sutton, Charles E. Green, E. T. Fearn, N. Sanford, Samuel West, William Parkes, T. E. Hart, W. C. Strohman, W. W. Harvey, Francis Moon, G. W. Knight, W. J. Turner, Richard Turner, A. J. Means, R. B. Fulton, J. A. Tulleys, O. R. Downs, W. B. Roby, M. B. McNitt, A. W. Holmgren, Abram Kaley, J. W. Warren, Joseph B. Carr, George W. Ball and Cornelius Vanhorn. The election of officers was then held, with the following result: M. B. McNitt, post commander, R. B. Fulton, S. V. C.; G. W. Ball, J. V. C.; J. A. Tulleys, Q. M.; A. Kaley, surgeon; J. L. Miller, O. D., and J. W. Warren, O. G. W. H. Strohman I. B. Hampton and W. B. Roby were respectively appointed adjutant, sergeant-major and quartermaster-sergeant. The first regular annual election of officers was held December 12,

1881, and the post commanders have since been as follows: Joseph Garber, 1882; M. B. McNitt, 1883; J. L. Miller, 1884; W. B. Roby, 1885; A. N. Patmore, 1886; O. R. Downs, 1887; H. E. Pond, 1888; Samuel West, 1889; David Kessler, 1890.

The whole number of members mustered into this post is 109—7 have died, 18 have been transferred, 2 have been discharged, 47 have been suspended or dropped, and the balance, 35, continue as members in good standing. The post meets regularly in the Masonic Hall.

A Woman's Christian Temperance Union and a Young Men's Christian Association have been organized and now exist in Red Cloud, both of which are doing good work.

One of the most noted events in the history of Red Cloud was the meeting of the Seventh Annual Nebraska State Firemen's Tournament, on July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 1889. The streets were handsomely decorated with bunting, and the business houses and residences were dressed with banners and beautiful designs.

The fire companies in attendance were the Kearney Hose Team, Aurora Hose Company, York Hook and Ladder Company, Kilpatrick Hose Company, of Beatrice, Grand Island Pompier Company, and the fire companies of Red Cloud. The bands present were the Warwick Band, Weber Band, of Hardy, and Bittner's Dramatic Company's Marine Band. A grand parade headed by the bands and followed by the several fire companies was made. Many contests for prizes offered were made during the tournament. Gov. Thayer was present and delivered an able address.

Those in attendance were well entertained by the people and fire department of Red Cloud. In the contest the following prizes were taken by the home department: Silver trumpet, first prize, valued at \$150; Green hose race, first prize, \$75; 39 class, second prize, \$50; champion races, second prize, \$75; hook and ladder, second prize, \$75; tug of war, tug and prize, \$100.

CHAPTER XXVI.



SKETCHES OF GUIDE ROCK, BLUE HILL, COWLES AND BLADEN—OTHER VILLAGES—SITUATION—ORIGIN OF NAMES
—PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS—POPULATION—EARLY RESIDENTS—FIRST BUSINESS ENTERPRISES
—PRESENT INTERESTS—JOURNALISM—INCORPORATION—OFFICIALS—BENEVOLENT
FRATERNITIES—HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE TOWNS.



See how the rising fruits the gardens crown,
Imbibe the sun, and make his light their own.—*Blackmore.*



GUIDE ROCK is situated on the left bank of the Republican River, three miles west of the eastern and five miles north of the southern boundary of the county. It is also on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, ten miles east of Red Cloud. It derives its name from the prominent rocky bluff on the opposite side of the river. Its site is high and dry, being on a beautiful plain inclining slightly toward the river on the south. The town was surveyed and laid out by Donald McCallum in September, 1873. The streets run east and west and north and south, and cross at right angles, and the location for a town is hard to surpass. It is, however, but a small village containing a population not exceeding 600. It is the place of the first settlement in Webster County. The Rankin colony had contemplated forming a settlement here, and had selected a large tract of land. Seventeen men of this colony came to this place in April, 1870, but only two of them, Donald McCallum and Emanuel Peters, remained and permanently settled on the 19th day of the month. They remained to look after the

interests of the colony. These two pioneers constructed a dug-out in which to live, it being the first structure of the kind and the first place for the habitation of white men in the county.

Early in the summer following these men were joined by Silas, Abram and Joseph Garber, Catharine Garber (wife of the latter), Albert Lathrop, A. M. Talbot, William McBride, Mrs. Sarah Micks and Mrs. Sarah Rich. This party was well pleased with the country, but after having assisted in building a stockade, some of them, in July of the same year, moved farther up the river and founded the settlement of Red Cloud. For the first two years the settlers in the vicinity of Guide Rock gathered close around the stockade for safety from the Indians. The post-office was established in the fall of 1870, with A. M. Talbot, postmaster. Mr. Talbot soon brought in a few groceries and kept a few supplies for a very short time. The first regular store was opened in the spring of 1872 by Arthur G. Owen, on his farm, about one mile southeast of the present town. The first school-house was built of logs early in the spring of 1871. It was situated near the stockade, on the southwest quarter of Section 2, Town 1 north, Range 9 west, about a mile east of the present village. Here Miss Mary Kingsley taught the first school in the county, commencing May 1, 1871,

and received for her services \$12 per month. The first sermon preached in the settlement was by Rev. Mr. Kennedy, to an audience of nearly all the settlers, in this school-house. In 1872 J. L. Columbia and M. Stratton built a saw-mill, but operated it for only a short time.

After the first few years of its existence, Guide Rock grew to be a village, containing two stores, a hotel, blacksmith shop and a post-office. It made but little further progress until 1880, when the construction of the railroad, with a station at the place, became a certainty. It then began to build up quite rapidly, and almost reached its present dimensions in five years thereafter. The three years drought of the surrounding country which then followed retarded the further development of the town, but in 1889 crops were again abundant, and the town has renewed prospects for further improvement. The only brick building in the village is the one occupied by the Guide Rock Bank; it was erected in 1885.

Following is a directory of the business of the village at this writing: Banks—Guide Rock Bank, owned by Meek, Burris & Auld, established in 1885, and Pioneer Bank by G. R. Brock; hotels—Occidental, by Josh. Harris, and Guide Rock Hotel, by Charles Fritzing; general merchandise—P. S. McGuire, A. J. Hayes and I. W. Crary; drugs—J. W. Robinson and Wilber Knapp; groceries—A. A. Sims, Joseph Westlake and Leslie Brink; hardware—J. S. Marsh; agricultural implements—William Montgomery; harness—Henry Strong; livery—J. L. Phillips and William Sabin; restaurant—Lewis Watt; furniture and undertaking—T. P. Doudna; millinery—Mrs. Maggie Robinson and Mrs. Hattie E. Rich; real estate—Hiram King and Shugart & Orm; meat market—Aughingbaugh & Renner; confectionery—Ed Cox; shoemaker—A. H. Kaley; saloons—Eli & Watt and Marsh & John; attorney—J. M. Chaffin; physicians—C. E. Vandiver, C. F. Morantville and J. W. Fisk; E. O. Parker keeps the post-office; R. S. Proudfit keeps a lumber yard; M. Lovett deals in grain and live stock; James Marsh has the grain elevator and buys and ships grain, and Mr. Harris bales and sells hay. There is a barber shop, and besides,

two blacksmith shops and a wagon shop. George Hagin is proprietor of the Guide Rock Nursery, containing about twenty-five acres in trees and vines; this nursery was established in 1882.

Guide Rock has a fine two-story school-house, with four rooms and a recitation room; it was built about 1884 and cost \$4,000. The village also contains two frame church edifices—Methodist and Baptist. The Guide Rock Mills, on the Republican River, two and a half miles southeast of the village, are run by Columbia, Potter & Hyler, and do a good business. Isaiah B. Hampton, across the river and three miles southwest of Guide Rock, has recently established a creamery on his farm. The Guide Rock Weekly Signal, a five-column quarto newspaper, bright and full of interest, was established by its present proprietor in 1882, and has been published continuously ever since. It enjoys a well deserved and liberal patronage. In politics it is Republican, though somewhat inclined to assume an independent attitude.

On September 20, 1883, a petition signed by the citizens of the village of Guide Rock, praying for the incorporation of their town, was presented to the board of county commissioners. The petition prayed for the town to be incorporated within the following limits:

Beginning at a point 1,347.16 feet west of the corner of Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, Township 1 north, Range 9 west in Webster County, Neb.; thence south 2,620.80 feet to the one-eighth section corner on the south side of the north-east quarter of Section 9, Township 1, Range 9; thence east 1,335.50 feet to the quarter section corner between Sections 9 and 10; thence north 1,304.80 feet along section line between Sections 9 and 10 to the southern limit of the original town site of Guide Rock, Neb., as per the recorded plat thereof; thence east 1,307 feet; thence north 1,316 feet to section line between Sections 3 and 10; thence west along said section line to the eastern limit of Talbot's addition to said town site of Guide Rock, as per the recorded plat thereof 983 feet; thence north 347 feet; thence west 333 feet to section line between Sections 3 and 4; thence north along said section line 880 feet; thence west 747 feet; thence south 680 feet to section line between Sections 4 and 9; thence west along said section line 600.16 feet to the place of beginning; being all that part of Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10 embraced and included within the original town site of Guide Rock, Webster County, Neb., together with Vance's addition, Vance's second addition and Talbot's addition to said town site of Guide

Rock as per the recorded plats of said town site of Guide Rock and the several additions thereto as above named.

After due consideration, the board of county commissioners granted the prayer of the petition and declared the village of Guide Rock duly incorporated, with J. S. Marsh, I. W. Crary, J. W. Robinson, E. O. Parker and William Montgomery as the board of trustees. The board of trustees at this writing is composed of J. W. Robinson, chairman; Henry Strong, John Marsh and Charles Nelson; M. Lovett is the marshal.

Among other secret societies of Guide Rock, Guide Rock Lodge No. 128, A. F. & A. M., occupies an important place. It was organized under dispensation granted January 28, 1884, and the charter was granted on June 24 following. The charter members were Charles W. Corwin, Irving W. Crary, John B. Fisk, Abram Garber, Edwin L. Grubb, Isaiah B. Hampton, Evan James, Alonzo N. John, James W. Moranville, Samuel B. Newmeyer, Noah H. Peters, William Pettit, Jacob H. Shugart, John S. Stratton and William Williams. This lodge meets regularly, and is in a fairly prosperous condition.

Guide Rock Lodge No. 49, A. O. U. W., was organized under a charter dated April 3, 1885, with the following charter members: J. B. Mulford, A. L. Strong, Judson H. Bailey, J. W. Robinson, E. O. Rector, George Van Woart, William Montgomery, John Darwin, J. S. Shepard, W. L. Pugsley, S. B. Newmeyer, Charles A. Nelson, J. S. Buster, George F. Hickok and W. H. Buster. The membership of the lodge has increased fairly, and the workmen find it to their mutual interest to be united. "In union there is strength."

Guide Rock Lodge No. 133, I. O. O. F., was organized under charter dated May 29, 1885, with J. W. Robinson, D. G. Warner, C. Metzner, G. W. Greger, James Duffee, Harrison Beans, Silas B. Viers, Michael Karle, C. B. Durgin and Peter Emigh, charter members. This lodge is also prospering.

T. O. Howe Post No. 138, G. A. R., was organized in March, 1883. M. B. McNitt and J. L. Miller, of Red Cloud, and a comrade from Superior mustered the comrades and original members, who

were as follows: Hiram King, Elisha Woodward, Henry Watt, Alex. Phillips, John Dunbar, William Montgomery, A. M. Talbot, Jerome A. Bailey, William H. Sawyer, M. M. Morgan, Abram Garber, Osborn Ayres, E. O. Rector, Jacob Kindescher, John W. Reddin, William R. Ryker, J. J. Moriarty, J. B. Fisk, G. B. Aughinbaugh, J. H. Shugart, J. W. Moranville, C. P. Norris, B. H. Gray, W. H. Barcus, J. A. Robinson and J. F. Harris.

The commanders of the post for each year since its establishment have been Jerome A. Bailey, 1883-85; John Dunbar, 1886; George Hagen, 1887; Orange Bair, 1888; Alex. Phillips, 1889, and George Hagen, 1890. Two members have died—A. M. Talbot and Comrade Hitesman. The post has mustered about fifty members in all, and about half that number have kept up their dues and remain in good standing.

The Woman's Relief Corps, No. 3, was organized under charter dated May 21, 1887, the charter members being Nellie Talbot, Cynthia Lathrop, Eliza Moranville, Cynthia A. Bailey, Maggie Robinson, Ida Bair, Libbie Gray, Minerva Parson, May Phillips, Hattie Rich, Mary Dunbar, Sarah Aughinbaugh, Roseltha Ayers, Louisa Pettit, Elizabeth Kinsey and Martha Robinson. Mrs. Ida Bair died in the fall of 1889. The corps has now about twenty members, and continues to labor for the welfare of the comrades and their families.

The town of Blue Hill is situated one mile south of the northern boundary and nine miles west of the eastern boundary of Webster County, at the crossing of the Hastings branch of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad and the Nebraska & Colorado Railroad. It is by rail nineteen miles south of Hastings and twenty-two miles north of Red Cloud. It was surveyed and platted in September, 1878, by A. B. Smith, the railroad town surveyor, for its original proprietor, Mr. Solomon B. Rohrer, of Hagerstown, Md. Its distance from large towns, and its fine railroad facilities and the good country surrounding it, render its future prosperity sure. The lands in this vicinity were mostly taken up before the close of 1879. Mr. I. O. Martin, of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, reached Blue Hill before the station house

was finished and opened the telegraph office on October 20, 1878. The office for freight and passenger business was opened on November 4, following, which may be considered the natal day of the town.

The first citizen to erect a building in Blue Hill, was Albert Blumenthal, who selected a lot as soon as the survey was completed, and began to dig a cellar. He put up a hotel 16x24 feet in size, to which he afterward built an addition. The hotel was opened October 9, 1878. The following month Hall & Wetmore opened an agricultural implement store. About this time the post-office was established, and John A. Wetmore became the first postmaster. James Murtauge opened a blacksmith shop on November 10, and John S. Hoover—once a member of Gen. Logan's staff—commenced buying grain on the 16th of the same month. Also in this month John W. Davis, of Hastings, opened the first general store in Blue Hill, with John F. Grimes, formerly of Knoxville, Ill., in charge. A lumber yard was also opened this month by Kettler & Krigsmann. Andrew Dice opened a hotel on December 18, 1878, and in February following D. Weinburg, of Chicago and Hastings, opened a fine stock of general merchandise, with Sol. Wandelborn as manager. The same month Joseph W. Moore opened the business of selling agricultural implements and fruit trees. David Smyth opened the first feed and livery stable on March 19, 1879. Mr. A. Kopisch opened the first hardware store in the place early in February. Mr. H. B. Munson opened a wagon and blacksmith shop on April 1, and later Andrew Dice started a boarding house west of the depot. Fred Jaeger established a boot and shoe shop on April 21, and J. O. Burgess opened his harness shop on May 16, following. Philip Everhart, formerly of Hancock County, Ill., located in Blue Hill in March, 1879, and soon after engaged in the coal trade. Nick Henger opened the first butcher shop. In the summer of 1879 W. L. Thatcher and John S. Hoover erected a grain elevator.

On July 28, 1879, the growing young town was visited by a storm that threatened its destruction. A dark cloud was seen coming up. Soon it passed

over, and then came a terrible storm of wind and rain. Mr. Tierman's store was unroofed; Smith's livery stable was unroofed and the end blown out; the front was blown out of Mendelbaum's store; Davis' store was badly damaged, the goods wet and many of them ruined; eight cars were blown off the track; windmills were torn down, and everything badly racked by the wind. The storm extended over no great extent of country, but a great deal of damage was done on farms in the vicinity of Blue Hill.

On April 29, 1882, the board of county commissioners in special session assembled, made, in response to a petition of the citizens of the village of Blue Hill, the following entry upon their record:

WHEREAS, it appears that said petition has been signed by a majority of the taxable male inhabitants of said village, and that the prayer of the petitioners is reasonable and that notices were posted in three public places within said county for five days, as provided by law, prior to this special meeting, and this board of county commissioners having received notice thereof, as provided by law,

Therefore, Be it ordered, that said village of Blue Hill be declared incorporated under the name of Blue Hill, within the following metes and bounds, to wit: The west half of the northeast quarter of Section ten (10), Township four (4), Range ten (10); the east half of the northeast quarter of Section nine (9), Township four (4), Range ten (10), and the town site of Blue Hill as per recorded plat on record in the office of the recorder of Webster County, Nebraska, comprising the west half of the northeast quarter of Section nine (9), Township four (4), Range ten (10).

The following named persons were then duly appointed trustees of the newly incorporated town: J. W. C. Thierman, A. Hopisch, H. B. Munson, J. O. Burgess and J. S. Hoover.

The board of trustees at this writing consist of Ed. Hilton, Will Garrison, Charles Goff, C. D. Robinson and Jacob Schunk.

Blue Hill has grown to be a town of about 1,000 inhabitants, and its business directory indicates a spirit of enterprise and of substantial commercial importance not to be overlooked. It is as follows: Banks—State, Blue Hill and First National; general stores—Philip Bock, Higgins & Price, Farmer's Alliance, M. W. Hornburger; groceries—Snyder & Co., T. Delehoyd, Honicks, Walker & Son, John Brunner, Ed. Hilton; drugs—Hicks Bros., J. T. Grimes;

bakery—John Brunner; furniture—Munson Bros.; hardware—William Parker, Farmers' Alliance, O. H. Martin & Co.; clothing—Panser, Lanz Bros., J. W. Norris & Son; hotels—City Hotel, by H. P. Munson, Central Hotel, by Charles Conrad; livery—Kinney & Randall, M. B. Bird, H. Smith, Watkins & Walters, — Shockey; harness—R. L. Pelz; millinery—Mrs. Hanson, Miss Parks; boots and shoes—F. Hopka, — Yeager; farm implements—W. O. Dimmick, O. C. Klingerman, Jacob Schunk; meat markets—F. Kick, A. Martin; lumber—William Whitten; photos—F. P. Steele; books and music—C. E. Norris.

In addition to the above the town has two grain elevators (one owned by H. Gund & Co. and the other by J. S. Hoover), the I. X. L. store (where wall paper, paints, etc., are sold), two saloons, the postoffice (by Ed. Hilton), one barber and two black-smith shops, an opera-house, a two-story brick school-house with four rooms, an imported stock company with R. P. Price as manager, four church buildings, and six business houses in brick buildings, all the rest in wood.

The physicians are Drs. Wageman, Snook and Ives. The site of Blue Hill is one of the most pleasant and beautiful that can be found.

Organizations of the Masonic, Odd-Fellows, A. O. U. W. and Modern Woodmen societies, and the Farmers' Alliance exist here, and the usual societies connected with the church organizations. A temperance league, numbering about 75 members, is also prosperous.

The Blue Hill Times was established in the spring of 1881, by Watkins Brothers, who published it until March 12, 1888, then selling to the present proprietor, George L. Burr. The latter has since remained in charge, issuing a paper which does credit to the place. It is a five-column quarto, and politically, is Republican. The Webster County Winner was established at Blue Hill in June, 1886, by Layton & Mollineaux, who issued it until December 18, 1887, when they sold to George L. Burr. He afterward merged it with the Times. The Blue Hill Leader, a five-column quarto weekly newspaper, was established July 16, 1887, by F. P. Shields. In March, 1890, he

sold it to its present proprietor, J. L. Miller. It is Democratic in politics, and enjoys a good circulation.

The town of Cowles is located on the Hastings branch of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, in Elm Creek Valley, ten miles by rail from Red Cloud, and eleven from Blue Hill, on the north. It also lies two and a half miles east of the geographical center of the county. It was surveyed and platted by A. B. Smith, the town surveyor of the Burlington & Missouri River and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroads, in September, 1878, and was named after Mr. W. D. Cowles, who for years, and up to the time of his death in Omaha, in 1876, was general freight agent of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad in Nebraska. The town lies in the south half of the northeast quarter of Section 4, Township 2 north, Range 10 west. It is divided into 22 blocks, 800 feet square; business lots are 25 feet front and 140 feet deep. The residence lots are 50 feet front and 140 feet deep. The town site is situated on the high bottom-land of Elm Creek, and is a beautiful and pleasant site for a town. The creek is well timbered, for this State, and the surrounding country is a first-class agricultural and stock-raising district. Some of the best farms in the county may be found on the bottoms of Elm Creek at this point. Good water is here obtained at a depth of from 10 to 35 feet, and while the farmers on the higher, or table lands, have to go some deeper for water, their lands for agricultural purposes are equally as good as the bottom lands.

The town site of Cowles was owned by John A. Poyer and wife. Mr. Poyer gave away several lots to those erecting good buildings thereon. Business lots sold from \$20 to \$50 each. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company erected a substantial depot, which was opened for business in December, 1878, also a good section house, which was occupied by the section boss. Mr. Crabtree erected the first building in the town—a small frame residence. The next residence was erected by L. D. Thomas in December, 1878. Thomas & Ward opened the first general store in the place in February, 1879. T. J. Ward erected a two-story

frame building, and fitted the lower story for a store and the upper for a town hall. D. T. Thomas opened the first grocery and farm-implement store, and T. E. Moon opened the second general store. J. H. Hill opened the first machine and blacksmith shop, and John Clark the first boot and shoe shop, and R. W. Wringer the first restaurant and boarding house.

The growth of the village has not been rapid. It has now a population of 200, and consists of one bank by L. C. Gilbert, a general store by Fuller & Good, a drug store by John Story, a livery stable by J. D. Post, two grain elevators—one by Cutter & Best and the other by Waller & Gifford, a general store by Harris & Hanawa, a lumber yard by John Blaine, one hotel, one blacksmith shop, two churches—Methodist and Congregational, a two-story frame school-house, and the railroad depot. Moore & Gilbert's cattle ranch is located one mile south of town on Elm Creek, and consists of three sections of land. They raise hogs also, and feed to their animals from 100,000 to 150,000 bushels of grain per year.

The Cowles Herald, a seven-column weekly newspaper, is now in its fourth volume, and is published by A. Hurd. Its motto is: "Independent in all things, neutral in nothing."

Bladen is a village on the Nebraska & Colorado Railroad, eight miles west of Blue Hill. It was surveyed and laid out May 29, 1886, by A. B. Smith, for the Lincoln Land Company, on lands owned by the company, and by L. B. Thorne. The village is mostly situated on the land owned by the latter. The first business established was two lumber yards—the lumber being transferred to the place before lots were selected for the yards. The proprietors of these yards were Whitten Bros. and the National Lumber Company. In the summer or fall of 1886 two or three small stores were moved to Bladen from Old Wells, previously established a mile west. Several other persons put up new buildings, and the whole town, about as it now stands, with the exception of the school-house and churches, was built up in the fall of 1886 and early winter of 1887.

The Nebraska & Colorado Railroad was completed through the county before the close of 1886. The first train to reach Bladen came in on the first Monday after Christmas of that year.

The business of Bladen is as follows: General stores—A. H. Johnson, W. H. Hoffman, Charles E. Hicks, Byrne Bros.; groceries—James Burden, H. H. Springer; drugs—Dr. C. P. Kehler; hardware—L. B. Thorne; bank—State Bank of Bladen; lumber—W. W. Whitten, of Blue Hill, with V. S. Hall as manager. There are also two grain elevators—one by H. Gund & Co., and one by L. B. Thorne. There are two fine church buildings—Baptist and Congregational—and a good school-house; one hotel, by B. Lee; a blacksmith shop, and a livery stable. There is a post of the G. A. R. at this village, but the members nearly all live in the country. Bladen is very pleasantly located, in the best farming portion of the county.

Amboy is the name of the junction of the two lines of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, four miles east of Red Cloud. There is no village there, though a post-office once existed. About half a mile above that point, on Elm Creek, is the noted flouring-mill, owned and operated by the Amboy Milling Company. The water-power that turns this mill is perpetual, the creek being fed with springs, and having such a rapid current, never freezes, and has a constant and unfailing supply of water through all seasons of the year.

Inavale is a small village on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, seven miles west of Red Cloud. It was surveyed and laid out May 15, 1884, by W. H. Stroh, for W. J. Vance, the original proprietor. It contains a general store, by W. J. Vance; another, by Sawyer & Kenyon; a lumber yard, by William Irons; a blacksmith shop, by S. W. Hull; and Charles Hunter deals in grain and live stock. There is one school-house, also a livery stable, kept by H. Shoemaker. The population is 100. G. W. Knight keeps the post-office.

Besides the places mentioned, there are in this county the post-office stations of Bole, Negunda, Otto and Scott. A thriving agricultural country surrounds these various places.

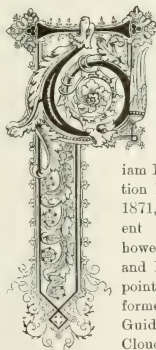
CHAPTER XXVII.



EDUCATION IN WEBSTER—FIRST EFFORTS—EARLY DISTRICTS AND SCHOOL SESSIONS—PROGRESS OF THE SYSTEM—
TEACHERS' INSTITUTE—SCHOOL STATISTICS AND REPORT—RELIGIOUS INTERESTS—EARLY MINISTERS HERE—
ABOUTS—PIONEER CHURCH—THE METHODIST—THE VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS REPRESENTED—MISCELLANEOUS
SUBJECTS—STORMS—SOLDIERS OF OUR WARS—MEXICAN SURVIVORS—HEROES OF
1861-65—REPUBLICAN VALLEY UNION SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ASSOCIATION—AGRI-
CULTURAL SOCIETIES—GRANGES, ETC.—COUNTY BUILDINGS—POPULATION.



So man, who here seems principal alone,
Perhaps acts second to some sphere unknown;
Touches some wheel, or verges to some goal;
'Tis but a part we see and not the whole.—*Pope.*



THE early settlers of Webster County realized the importance of education, and at once set about to provide schools for their children. The first step toward this end was the election of William E. Jackson at the first election held in the county, in April, 1871, to the office of superintendent of schools. Mr. Jackson, however, did not accept this honor, and Ed. Kellogg was at once appointed. The first school district formed in the county was at Guide Rock, the next at Red Cloud, and the third on Walnut Creek, all of which were organized in 1871. The first school in the county was taught in the Guide Rock district by Miss Mary Kingsley, commencing May 1, of that year. The next school was taught in Red Cloud, commencing June 3, of the same year, and it follows that the next was on Walnut Creek. Thus schools were opened the same year

the county was organized, and the first year after its first settlement.

Additional school districts were formed by the court doing county business, as fast as the increased population demanded them; and so rapid was this demand, that in 1880, only nine years after the organization of the county, it had seventy-five school districts, sixty-seven of which were provided with school-houses. Of these twenty-six were frame buildings, five were built of stone, thirty of sod and six of logs. There were then in the county a little over 2,500 children of school age.

A meeting of the friends of education was held in Red Cloud on April 24, 1874, preparatory to the organization of the first teachers' institute in Webster County. H. S. Kaley, the county superintendent of schools, presided at this meeting, and Charles W. Springer acted as secretary. The meeting adjourned to the following Wednesday, when Hon. J. M. McKenzie, State superintendent of public instruction, and Prof. C. B. Palmer, editor of the Nebraska Teacher, were present as instructors, and conducted the exercises, which con-

tinued for three days. The following teachers and members of the institute were present and participated: Among the ladies from Red Cloud, were Annie M. Jones, Lydia F. Munger, Sarah L. Fisher, Frances Beauchamp, C. Smith, Fannie M. Barber, Laura J. Ludlow, Sarah C. Tulleys, Mary C. Metcalf, Martha E. Brown, and Amelia E. Smith; from Wells, Eliza A. Tuttle; from Inavale, Mrs. G. W. Knight; from Guide Rock, Vina C. Tyler. Of the gentlemen from Red Cloud, there were H. S. Kaley, county superintendent of schools, Rev. A. Maxwell, Rev. Charles Reilly, T. J. Wright, J. Q. Potter, Charles W. Springer, William C. Reilly, Lee S. Estell, J. R. Wilcox, J. L. Hull, and Edward Kellogg; from Batin, David Fetz; from Little Blue, M. Wilson and O. P. Q. Rorrick; from Scott, J. W. Luce.

At this meeting a temporary county teachers' association was formed with H. S. Kaley, president, and A. L. Burton, secretary, and the 22d of May following was the time set to meet and perfect the association. Accordingly, at the time appointed, the teachers assembled and effected a permanent organization with A. L. Burton, president; Dr. Fetz, vice-president, and Mrs. M. E. Brown, secretary.

Here was a county west of the Mississippi River wherein a teachers' institute was held and a teachers' association organized in just four years after the first white settler stepped upon its soil. The teachers and officers named must be considered the pioneer educational workers in Webster County. Mr. Charles W. Springer was a prominent teacher in the Red Cloud schools for several years, and was county superintendent of schools from 1882 to 1887.

The following statistics taken from the last published report of the State superintendent of public instruction [for the year ending December 31, 1888] will serve to indicate the condition of the public schools and the workings of the free-school system in this county. The report shows that the number of children within the county between the ages of five and twenty-one was, males 1,957, females 1,898, total 3,855, and that the number who attended school during the school

year was, males 1,485, females, 1,540, total 3,025; twenty-nine under the age of five, and ten over the age of twenty-one, were enrolled in the public schools. The number of school districts was 79, and the number of school-houses 78. Of these 4 were constructed of stone, 3 of brick, 67 of wood and 4 of sod. The value of the houses was \$64,571, the value of the sites \$8,591, and of the books and apparatus \$3,434.21. There were four graded schools in the county, and the whole number of teachers employed in all the schools was, males 34, females 102, total 136. Seventy-one districts had six months' school, five had four months and three had no school. A teachers' institute, continuing two weeks, was held, and eighty-five teachers out of ninety in the county were enrolled.

The total receipts for the school year, including the amount on hand at the beginning, was \$49,932.71, and the total expenditures, \$41,506.25, thus leaving \$8,425.96 on hand at the close of the year. During the school year the county school superintendent made seventy-four visits to the schools, was employed all the time in official work, and received a salary of \$1,000.

The free-school system in Webster County is working well as a whole, and the people take much interest in educational matters. The following report by Superintendent Curran, of the schools of Red Cloud will be read with interest:

"Upon taking charge of these schools, at the commencement of the school year, I found a 'Course of Study' which meets the requirements of the 'Minor Course' of the university. It was prepared by Prof. Picking, my immediate predecessor. It covers a period of twelve years' school work—four years each in the primary, grammar and high-school departments.

"We have two brick buildings—one of four and one of five rooms, and also two frame buildings, one of which is used for a kindergarten school. We have an enrollment of about 600 pupils, and a corps of twelve teachers.

"A fair geological cabinet and philosophical apparatus have recently been placed in our schools. Our people manifest a deep interest in educational

matters, a fact amply demonstrated by the large audience that greets each session of our public teachers' meetings, held semi-monthly in the high-school building. The large high-school room has not sufficient seating capacity for the school patrons who attend these meetings. The program for each meeting consists of a class drill by one of our teachers, after which we have a professional criticism by the teachers, and such suggestions as visitors may desire to make on educational subjects, or the welfare of our schools. A brief talk on some subject of didactic nature, select reading and music, complete our program. The great aim of these meetings is to create a bond of true sympathy between school patrons and teachers, so that the former may, in a greater measure, appreciate the work of the latter, hence very materially aid in attaining the great object of our public schools.

"Moral teaching receives due consideration, and I am pleased to find a good moral tone—above the average—to pervade the pupils of these schools.

"Our teachers are faithful, energetic workers. Thoroughness is the key-note that keeps sounding through their work."

Rev. C. W. Wells was the first minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church to labor in Webster County. He was sent from Fairbury by Rev. John B. Maxfield, presiding elder of the Beatrice district, reached Red Cloud in August, 1871, and commenced his ministerial work. The annual conference held at Nebraska City, March 20, 1872, returned Rev. Wells to Red Cloud, and at the end of that year, as shown by the conference minutes, the Red Cloud circuit had thirty-six in full membership and twenty-one on probation, and \$1 had been collected for missions. Rev. Wells remained on the Red Cloud circuit until the spring of 1873, and was paid for his services \$130 per year. The conference of 1873 attached Red Cloud circuit to the Kearney district established that year, and appointed Rev. S. B. York to succeed Rev. Wells, but he (York) did not visit the work, and Rev. Charles Reilly a local preacher, was appointed to take charge. He commenced his labors November 1, 1873, finding the Methodist elements scattered and demoralized, but soon gathered them together

and advanced the work. He continued as pastor to the end of the conference in October, 1874. There were at this time 135 full members in the circuit and twenty probationers. The drought and grasshopper scourge of 1874 put a partial stop to further church extension, and for the next two years Red Cloud circuit had no regular pastor. The annual conference in 1877 appointed Rev. C. Reilly again to this circuit. Rev. J. Dixon served as pastor of the circuit from the fall of 1878 to 1881. Guide Rock circuit was formed in 1878, and Rev. Lewis Barr was appointed its pastor. At the end of the conference year in the fall of 1880, Red Cloud circuit had 100 full members and twelve probationers, and one church house valued at \$2,500 and parsonage valued at \$600. Guide Rock circuit had 125 members and five probationers, but reported no church property. The pastors of the Red Cloud circuit since 1881 have been Rev. G. W. Hawley, 1881-83; Rev. C. B. Lenfest, 1883-84; Rev. George W. Hummel, 1884-87. In 1887 the name of the Red Cloud circuit was changed to Inavale circuit, and R. S. Moore was appointed pastor thereof. In 1889 Rev. A. L. Folden was appointed on this circuit. The conference minutes of 1889 gave the membership of Inavale circuit at 128 in full membership and fourteen probationers, and \$1,100 as the probable value of church property.

The Red Cloud charge was established in 1884, and its pastors have been as follows: Rev. G. S. Davis, 1884-88; W. S. Falkenburg, 1888-89; Rev. E. J. Randall, the present pastor, appointed in 1889. The last conference minutes showed this charge to have 124 full members, four probationers, two church buildings with a probable value of \$5,000, and one parsonage of an estimated value of \$1,500.

The pastors of the Guide Rock circuit since its organization have been as follows: Rev. Lewis Barr, 1878-81; A. G. Blackwell, 1881-84; E. R. Fulkerson, 1884-85; L. Morrison, 1885-86; George Burbank, 1886-88; C. B. Lenfest, present pastor, appointed at the annual conference in 1888, and reappointed in 1889. The last report gives this circuit 166 full members and thirteen

probationers, and church property at the probable value of \$1,500.

Blue Hill circuit was established in 1881, and its pastors have been as follows: Lewis Barr, 1881-82; * * * George Wilson, 1883-84; John G. Walker, 1884-87; F. Deal, 1887-88; L. Morrison, 1888-89. The latter was reappointed at the annual conference of 1889. The circuit, according to report to the last conference, had ninety-four full members and fifteen probationers, and one church edifice valued at \$2,000.

The Cowles and Amboy circuit was established in 1887, and its pastors have been as follows: G. W. Hummel, 1887-89, and J. P. McVey appointed in the fall of 1889. According to last report, this circuit had sixty full members, twelve probationers, and church property valued at \$800.

These comprise all the circuits of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Webster County, and give a combined membership of 572 and fifty-eight probationers. Some of the circuits include one or two classes in adjoining counties. The several organizations within the county belonging to this denomination are locally named as follows: Ash Creek, Penney Creek, Hummel's Appointment, Walnut Creek, Inavale, New Virginia, Bladen, Blue Hill, Cowles, Elm Creek, Francis School-house, Pleasant Ridge, Honniout, Amboy, Pleasant Hill, Guide Rock, Wells' Neighborhood and Red Cloud—eighteen in all.

Soon after the arrival of Rev. Wells, in 1871, he organized the Penney Creek Church, and on May 11, 1872, he organized the Red Cloud society, and the same year he organized the Ash Creek class. Among the early members of the Red Cloud Church were J. W. Burtis and wife, Jacob Potter, Joseph Morehouse, D. Richardson, B. H. Gray, Peter Grawburg, A. L. Burton and William Van Dyke. In 1873 the Methodists procured six lots in Red Cloud, and in 1878 a frame church building, costing over \$2,000, was erected thereon. It was dedicated, on September 22, by Rev. Edward Thompson, free from debt. This building was blown down and destroyed in the cyclone of June 10, 1879, and in due time thereafter the present frame edifice was erected.

The constituent members of the Ash Creek Church were C. C. Coon, James B. Chapin, John Street, McCartney, James Harris and their wives, Mrs. Charles H. Smith, Mrs. White and Spencer Andrus and wife. Their first church building was a log cabin built on Section 30, in what is now Garfield Township, and their present frame church stands on Section 10, in the same township. It was dedicated July 19, 1887, by Rev. Lewis. It cost \$1,200 and is entirely free of debt.

The first Methodist society in the vicinity of Guide Rock was organized in 1873 in the Ghoarche school-house, about two miles northwest of that village. Mrs. Milner, Mr. and Mrs. Ghoarche, Peter Grawburg and wife, Mrs. Bills, Hester Baldwin and Mrs. Newton Smith were among the constituent members. About the same time, or soon afterward, a class was organized on the south side of the Republican River, in the southeast part of the county. In 1875 this and the Ghoarche class united and established their church in Guide Rock. Their present church edifice, a neat frame house, was completed in 1885.

In 1872 or 1873 Father Lechleitner, of the Roman Catholic Church, began to hold services in the log cabin of William E. Jackson, in Red Cloud. Here he continued at intervals of three or four months for about two years. He lived at Crete. Meanwhile a church organization was effected by the congregating of the families of William E. Jackson, James La Due, Thomas McCartney, Henry McConnel, James and Mert Murphey, John Devlin and Victor Detour. Services continued to be held in the house of Mr. Jackson, and occasionally in the house of some other member until the present church edifice was constructed. This is a brick building, erected about 1882 or 1883, in Jackson's addition, at a cost of \$1,500. The original families attending this church were about ten in number. Some of them came quite a distance from Guide Rock, from Wheatland, the French settlement in the northwest part of the county, and from the southwest part of the county. There are now from twenty-two to twenty-five families numbered among the regular attendants. Following Father Lechleitner, Father Glauber came from

Hastings at intervals for about two years; then Father Simon, also from Hastings, about a year; then came Father Rhulier, about a year; then Father J. A. Fanning, from Orleans, served about three years. He was followed by Father Clerly, from the same place, who served about four years, and he by Father John Lawless, also from Orleans. Father Schraffle, who now officiates, began his ministry early in 1889. This is the pioneer Roman Catholic Church in Webster County.

There is a Roman Catholic Church at Blue Hill with a frame edifice which cost about \$700. This church now has no priest, but the members are negotiating for a resident priest, to live in the parsonage which they are preparing to build. There is also a Roman Catholic Church in what is known as the French settlement in the northwest part of the county.

By and under the advice of Rev. J. N. Webb a few members of the Regular Baptist denomination met July 27, 1873, at the school-house in Guide Rock district, about a mile east of the present village, and organized "The First Baptist Church of Guide Rock," it being also the first Baptist Church in Webster County. The constituent members of the church were Mesdames Lucia Sabin, Sue McBride, Lydia K. Bailey, Alda Bailey, Amelia J. Smith, Hattie Lattin, Hannah Garber, Miss M. C. Tyler, J. B. Page and wife, Edgar Lattin and J. E. Smith. Bro. Smith was elected deacon and Bro. Lattin church clerk. Rev. Thomas Muxlow became the first pastor, who agreed to preach a year for \$100. During the winter of 1873-74 a series of meetings were held by Rev. Muxlow, resulting in much religious interest with some conversions and some accessions to the church. In the spring of 1874 delegates were appointed to visit representatives from other churches in Webster and Franklin Counties, at Riverton, in the latter county, for the purpose of organizing an association.

In the spring of 1877 Rev. James McIntosh, of Franklin County, became pastor, and served one year. Rev. George O. Yeiser served as pastor from the spring of 1878 to October, 1881, when he resigned. Elder L. T. Jones became pastor in

the spring of 1882. He was succeeded in the fall of that year by Elder Taggart, who served to the fall of 1883. He was followed for a time by Elder George H. Brown. In December, 1885, Rev. E. A. Abbott became pastor and served until the following November. He was then followed for one year by Elder J. D. Stapp. The present pastor, Rev. George O. Yeiser, began his work in January, 1890. The church has about thirty members. The lots on which the present church edifice now stands in Guide Rock were donated by the Lincoln Land Company, and the building, a frame, was completed in 1880 at a cost of \$773. It was dedicated on September 24, of that year, by Elders R. W. Connelly and J. W. Osborn. A union Sunday-school was organized in the Guide Rock school district about six months before this church was organized.

The First Baptist Church of Red Cloud was organized June 10, 1876, on which occasion delegates were present from six sister churches, viz.: Walnut Creek, Riverton, Bloomington, Macon, Guide Rock and Union. The constituent members were John W. Hall, Lucy J. Hall, B. B. Crandall, S. A. Crandall, Mary E. Fisher, Sarah L. Fisher, Laura Barber, Sue R. McBride, Laura Dixon, S. C. Calvert and C. W. Springer. At a covenant meeting held July 8, following, C. W. Springer and John W. Hall were elected deacons, and B. B. Crandall, church clerk. Rev. J. T. Milner was the first pastor and served until the spring of 1878. Rev. George O. Yeiser was then engaged and officiated as pastor until May 1, 1883, when he resigned on account of poor health, but being a resident, he continued to labor for the church, and did much toward securing the erection of the present church edifice. In August, 1884, Rev. George H. Brown accepted a call from the church, and served as its pastor for the next two years. In November, 1886, Rev. F. M. Williams accepted a call and served as pastor of the church until April, 1888, when his resignation was accepted. Rev. A. W. Snider accepted a call and preached one year from April 1, 1889. At this writing [May, 1890] the church has no regular pastor.

Rev. George O. Yeiser, who has resided in Red

Cloud ever since he was first engaged as pastor of the church, has always been on hand, and has preached and kept up the services on all occasions when the church had no regular minister, willingly performing much labor for which he received no salary. The salary paid pastors has been raised from \$125, paid the first year, to \$700, paid the last year. The membership of this church, as per report made September 12, 1889, was fifty-five, and the church edifice and grounds were valued at \$3,000. The church edifice was built in 1884, and dedicated July 13 of that year, on which occasion Rev. W. B. Connelly preached a very able sermon. The building, which is a substantial frame, cost about \$2,300, and when it was dedicated, the indebtedness thereon, \$959, was secured and the church freed from debt. A Sunday school has nearly always been kept up in connection with the church, and the report above referred to gave it thirteen teachers and eighty two scholars.

Mount Carmel Baptist Church, at Bladen, was organized in April, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Springer, Mrs. Serl, Mrs. Shellhammer and William Milner, having withdrawn from Prairie Grove Church, formed a society at Bladen, and they, with Mrs. Susan Monroe, Miss Monroe, Mr. and Mrs. John Perham and Mrs. Angeline Wilson, were the original members of the church. The first meeting looking to the organization was held in the G. A. R. Hall, and resulted in a church society. Miss Monroe was made clerk, and Mrs. Monroe treasurer. The trustees were S. B. Thorne, W. E. Thorne, N. Springer, William Milner and John Perham. On June 7, 1889, steps were taken to erect a church edifice, and the building committee appointed: N. Springer, L. B. Thorne and John Perham. The corner-stone was laid that day. A frame building was erected, 26x50 feet, at a cost of \$1,524, seating and all, and the present membership numbers eighteen. Services are held every Sabbath, and the pastor in charge is Elder Ingham. The church sustains a Sunday school, with an average of fifty scholars. Mrs. Springer has bent every energy to further the interests of the church, and has walked many miles during the hot summer months to solicit subscriptions for the enterprise.

The first Congregational Church at Red Cloud was organized August 15, 1874, by the consolidation of the Congregational Churches of Batin and Inavale, upon the presentation of the following certificate: "This is to certify that we, the undersigned members of the Congregational Churches of Batin and Inavale, approve of the organization of a Congregational Church at Red Cloud, Webster County, Neb., and request that our names be entered on the record as members of said church. Dated at Batin and Inavale, respectively, August 8, 1874. Signed by the following named members: Joseph Chambers, Thomas P. Brown, I. W. Brown, Simeon Brown, James A. Chambers, Deborah Brown, Rebecca Brown, Nancy Chambers, James H. Brown, Rizzpah Brown, Mary E. Brown and John N. Brown, of Batin; and L. H. Luce, A. B. Luce, George Gibbons, E. H. Jones, Sarah Jones, Sarah Ann Groat, D. L. Groat, Nancy Beck, William A. Beck, J. S. Hunter, Jane Stager and William Wilson, of Inavale; Rev. A. Maxwell (who organized the church), and J. Q. Potter and wife and Agnes E. McCall were received by letter.

The ministers of the church have served as follows: Abraham Maxwell from August 15, 1874, to April, 1879; George Bent, from February 22, 1879, to November 9, 1881; Q. C. Todd, from June 17, 1882, to June 17, 1884; J. G. Aikman, from June 1, 1885, to September 1, 1886; M. C. Butler, from October 2, 1886, to October 17, 1888. The pastor at this date, April, 1890, is Rev. C. E. Taggart, and the membership is sixty-nine. R. M. Cochrane is superintendent of the Sunday-school. The church edifice, a neat frame building, was put up in 1880.

The Congregational Church at Cowles was organized November 28, 1883, by a council from neighboring churches at Franklin, Red Cloud, Bloomington and Hastings. The constituent members were Charles T. Putnam, Frank C. Hall, Henry J. Sheldon, Willis D. Gillette, Charles M. Brown, Mrs. Mary M. Brown, David Orr, Mrs. Isabell, E. S. Reed, Mrs. Mary Reed, William H. Stearn, Mrs. Lizzie Stearn, Jane Putnam and eleven others. The pastors have been Revs. Alfred Martinis, from March 1, 1884, to same

time in 1885; William D. Page, from March 20, 1885, to October 19, 1888; Henry D. Platt, the present pastor, from November, 1888. The present church edifice, a frame, costing when furnished \$852.25, was constructed in 1885-86, and dedicated June 20, 1886, by Rev. J. L. Maile, of Omaha. The present membership is fifty-two. This church belongs to the Republican Valley Association of Congregational Churches and ministers. It grew out of a Sunday-school organized in Cowles by Rev. J. D. Stewart, of Hastings, in the spring of 1883. It has had an interesting, though not remarkable history, and has accomplished great good. It is in a healthy, harmonious and prosperous condition. George A. Harris is clerk and treasurer, and C. E. Putnam, Sunday-school superintendent.

This denomination has an organization and a fine frame church edifice at Bladen.

The Presbyterian Church at Red Cloud was organized about the year 1876, by Rev. John Fleming, formerly of Illinois. There were only a few constituent members, and none of them now remain. Following the organization Rev. Fleming preached occasionally for a short time. Rev. James Price was the first regular pastor. He was followed by Rev. J. Middleton. Rev. John K. Harris was pastor from 1882 to 1884. The church edifice, a frame building costing about \$2,200, was erected during his ministry, and was dedicated in 1884. Afterward Rev. McMecum was pastor for a short time, and Rev. H. A. Pond was pastor for about eighteen months prior to the fall of 1887. Prior to the fall of 1889, Rev. Fox served as pastor about three months. Since that time the church has had no pastor. The society has not been formally disbanded, but services have been discontinued, and the membership is so small that it can scarcely be said to have an existence.

The Episcopal Church in Red Cloud was organized early in 1879, by Rev. Love, of Hastings. Samuel Smith, the principal mover in the organization, George Barker, Mrs. R. A. Barker, Mrs. Silas Garber, Mrs. Roby and Mrs. A. J. Kinney were among the original members. They worshiped in the Methodist Church, and Rev. Love continued to preach for them until that church blew down in

the cyclone of June 10, 1879. The church was then without a pastor for two or three years. Afterward Rev. Weatherby from Indiana, officiated as pastor about a year, and Rev. Crockett was pastor in 1883, when the present church edifice was erected. Rev. Fulforth served as pastor from 1886 to 1888, and since then the church has had no regular pastor, but has been supplied occasionally with preaching. Gov. Edelman donated the ground on which the church stands, estimating it at \$300. The edifice is a neat frame building, and cost about \$1,200. At present the church has a membership of from thirty-five to forty. A Sunday-school was sustained when the church was supplied with a minister.

The Christian Church of Red Cloud was organized in June, 1886, by R. C. Barrow, an evangelist, with M. B. Edelman and wife, S. S. Spokesfield and wife, B. F. Mizer and wife and Mrs. L. H. Fort as constituent members. Elder Clark Barnes was the first pastor, and preached about six months. George Clark was pastor for a few months in 1887, and the church was then without a regular pastor until the spring of 1889, after which G. W. Garner of Beloit, Kas., came and preached once a month up to February, 1890. The church edifice, a frame building, was erected in the fall of 1889, and dedicated February 16, 1890. F. M. Rains of Topeka, Kas., preached the dedicatory sermon, and secured the necessary amount of funds, \$1,400, to clear the organization from debt. The cost of the lots, the building and seats was \$3,300. Immediately following the dedication, R. C. Barrow and William Winters held a series of meetings, continuing for some weeks, which resulted in the addition of thirty-nine members to the church. William Winters was then employed as pastor for the ensuing year, commencing early in April. The church membership is now about 100. The Sunday-school under the superintendency of D. Frank Parker is well attended, and the good work is fairly progressing.

The Christians have an organization at Blue Hill, but no church building.

The German Baptists, commonly called "Dunkards," have an organization on Ash Creek. Rev.

Wagner, the present minister, his wife and his father and mother, John Wagner and wife, David Wagner and wife, and Mrs. Bryant were among the earliest members of this society. They have no church building, but worship in the school-house, about a mile south of the Ash Creek Methodist Church. This denomination strenuously contends that the only true mode of baptism is by immersion three times, face forward, once in the name of the Father, once in the name of the Son, and once in the name of the Holy Ghost.

In addition to the foregoing, the Presbyterians have an organization at Blue Hill, and a church edifice—frame—which cost about \$1,100. Rev. W. W. Morton is the resident pastor.

The First German-Evangelical Zion's Church of Red Cloud was organized January 7, 1884, with the following constituent members: August, Fred. and Carl Woberman, C. Albrecht, William Moede, Charles Fahndrick and seven others. Rev. Charles Schubkegel was pastor of the church from its organization to March 31, 1889, and since that time Rev. H. Dannenfeldt has been pastor, and is serving as such for \$100 per year. The present members are Chr. Albrecht, Aug. and Fred. Woberman, J. and A. and B. Ring, A. Heyde, C. Doose, J. T. Jessen, A. Prill, E. Welsch, R. Schultz and A. Stumme. The church house, a frame 24x30 feet, situated on Lots 13 and 14, in Block 21, original town, was dedicated June 9, 1884, clear of debt. There is also an organization of this denomination with a comfortable frame church building at Blue Hill, with the same pastor as the foregoing.

The Friends or Quakers have a church organization four miles southeast of Cowles. Rev. Steeley is their pastor.

The first camp-meeting grounds in Webster County were cleared on Penney Creek, in August, 1872, by Rev. Budd Penney, the first local preacher in the county, George W. Hummel and James Romine. On this occasion a buffalo passed by, and Rev. Penney and Mr. Hummel mounted their horses and made chase. They had one dog which also took part in the sport. Having driven the animal four miles east, he stopped and showed fight with the dog, and in the encounter got into a small cut

or ravine where the dog kept him at bay, while the riders hitched their horses. They had lost their ammunition in the chase, and consequently had no available arms, so they gathered rocks and stoned the animal until he became weak, when Rev. Penney caught and held him by the horns and Hummel cut his throat with his pocket knife. They then dressed the animal and carried the beef to their homes.

The first camp-meeting was held on the grounds fitted up on Penney Creek, the same month, where the early settlers came from far and near to worship God in the native forest. Another meeting was held there the next year, and then for two or three years following camp-meetings were held near Red Cloud, on the Republican River. Since then camp-meetings have not been held within the county. The first Sunday-school in the county was organized in Red Cloud, in the summer of 1872, in the little log-cabin used as the court-house and clerk's office. The first Sunday-school convention in Webster County was organized at Red Cloud, June 12, 1874, by electing Rev. A. Wells chairman and C. W. Springer, secretary.

Webster County has been visited by a few very severe storms. The "Great Easter Storm" of 1872 commenced on the night of April 12 of that year and continued until the 15th. It was not very cold, but a dense snow-storm prevailed with a heavy pressure of wind. The snow was moist, and its density was so great that one could not see a house through it at a distance of 100 feet. People who were absent from home when the storm came on, had to remain away until it was over. Mr. William Fent, living on Indian Creek, happened to be absent from his residence, working for W. N. Richardson at Red Cloud. Before the storm ceased, his wife started out with her child to seek her husband, and when the storm was over, she and the child were found dead in a snow bank. On this occasion the snow continued to fall for forty-eight hours without ceasing. Travel was impossible. Notwithstanding the storm's severity, no human beings other than those mentioned perished in Webster County. Some, however, lost their lives in adjoining territory.

A considerable number of cattle out on the open prairies for miles north of the Republican River were driven southward down the declining plain and into the river, where they perished. The winter prior to this storm had not been unusually severe, and the spring had opened early, the weather had become warm and pleasant, and vegetation was far advanced.

The next great storm worthy of note occurred in March, 1875, and was described as follows in the Red Cloud Chief, issued on the 31st of that month:

"Last Thursday evening about 5 o'clock, a long line of black-looking clouds was observed on the western horizon, betokening the approach of a storm, but there was nothing in the appearance that attracted any attention, more than a passing glance, and the remark that it might rain before morning. About 6 o'clock, however, the atmosphere was suddenly filled with dust and sand, and a hurricane swept through with a velocity never before experienced in the valley, if in the State. There was not a minute's warning before it was almost as dark as midnight; the force of the wind and the flying gravel, sand and dust made it impossible to stand an instant before it, and those who were unfortunate enough to be out were obliged to lie down or seek a shelter by flying with the wind. The fury of the hurricane lasted about half an hour. Nearly every one on the main streets managed to get to the store of Garber & Company, which building was considered the safest, though some took shelter in other and to them more available places. Buildings shook and tottered, as if about to be torn to pieces, and the alarm was fearful. The afternoon had been so pleasant and spring-like that almost everybody was out, and a large party of ladies were at Mrs. McNitt's. Of course no one could get home, and there were many anxious hearts during the short time the wind was at its height.

"Three times a fire was started on the east side of the shoe shop or near Mr. Lutz's dwelling, which was promptly extinguished, in the first case by William N. Richardson, and then by others. At that juncture, if a fire had got fairly under way,

the entire town would have been destroyed. As the tempest began to abate, it was discovered that to the north the prairies were on fire, and a widening circle of light could be seen advancing with the rapidity of a race horse, until suddenly the blazing flames burst in full view and showed to its fullest extent the horrors of the situation. Fortunately for the town, the wind slightly changed, but enough to turn the direction of the fire, and instead of jumping the creek to the north, it swept down the ridge east of the creek, and passed through the bottom lands to the river, where its course was checked. In some places the flames were lifted up and carried bodily for some distance, when they would strike the earth again, leaving strips of grass unscorched. A large number of persons narrowly escaped being caught by the burning prairies.

"All day on Friday and Saturday reports of the destruction of houses and property throughout the county were brought in. The greatest number of losses consisted of stables and contents, there generally being more litter and combustible material lying about them. Josiah Casebeer, one mile east of town, lost his stable, considerable grain, a number of hogs, and a large quantity of wood. Dr. Head lost stable, some grain, two large stacks of hay, and about forty rods of valuable fence. Charles Teachworth, on Indian Creek, lost stable, hay and grain of considerable value, a span of horses, harness and agricultural implements. His house caught fire also, but was saved by hard work. Mrs. Fisher, in the same neighborhood, lost hay, sheds and other property. William Benson, also of Indian Creek, lost stable, with one horse, harness, agricultural implements, lumber, rails, posts, etc. C. L. Brockman, living six miles north of Red Cloud, lost his house and contents, and his stables—there being no one at home but some children, the oldest of whom was a girl about fifteen years of age. C. W. Fuller, living near Elm Creek, lost everything—house, stables, team—nothing about the place being saved. Peter Donolly, in the same neighborhood, had his house burned, and lost his team in Mr. Peck's stable, which was also burned. Mrs. Donolly was in the act of putting her two little girls into bed when

the fire struck the house, but saved their lives and her own by fleeing with them to a dug-out. Everything in the house was destroyed, even to the family clothing. The stable of C. D. Peck was burned, with two hogs, and the team of Mr. Donolly above mentioned. David Ralston lost stable, hay and harness. Charles Potter and E. B. Pierce also lost stables, stock and other property. In the western part of the county, on Farmers' Creek, Allen T. Ayers lost stable and hay, and Charles Thompson a horse that was in the stable. The house and stable of Mr. Riddle, with all their contents, were destroyed. Charles Hunter lost eight head of cattle, burned on the prairie. William Carter, Mr. Kincaid, William Baker, the latter living northeast of Red Cloud, lost stables and other property. The wind itself did but little damage, but the fires spread by the wind wrought havoc. Much property in addition to that enumerated was destroyed."

Another great storm, and the most severe of all, but not so widespread, was the one that wrecked the town of Red Cloud in the summer of 1879, an account of which appears with the history of the town.

Since the organization of Webster County, its citizens have not been called upon to engage in any war, but many of them—especially the majority of the first settlers—have stood in the "front rank of danger's dark career," and heroically fought the battles of their country. There are, at this writing, at least three survivors of the Mexican War within the county, viz.: William E. Jackson, Capt. L. F. Munsell and Mr. Andrews.

A very large percentage of the heads of families within the county are Union survivors of the Civil War of 1861-65. Quite a number of these men assembled at Red Cloud on September 6, 1879, and organized "The Republican Valley Union Soldiers' and Sailors' Association," with R. B. Fulton, as president; D. Lutz, vice-president; M. B. McNitt, secretary, and G. W. Knight, treasurer. The object was set out in the constitution adopted, as follows:

"The object of this association is, that we, who in the war for the Union, left our homes and firesides, and endured together the fatigues

and sufferings incident to the battle field, the march, the hospital and the prison pens of the South, may draw closer about us that union of heart and mind that arises from the memory of joint labor and fellow suffering, do honor to those of our brothers who fell in the strife, by cherishing their memory, awaken anew our love for our country, and dedicate ourselves in peace, as we dedicated our bodies in war, to its sustenance and honor."

The officers of the association were made to consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and executive committee, to be elected annually, on July 4.

The following is a list of members who signed the constitution: R. B. Fulton, Company B, First Iowa Cavalry; David Lutz, Company I, Second Iowa Cavalry; G. W. Knight, Company C, Third Minnesota Infantry; E. W. Edson, Company I, First Pennsylvania Rifles; W. W. Harvey, Company A, Third Wisconsin Infantry; John Harvey, Company M, Second Wisconsin Cavalry; W. J. Turner, Company G, Fifth Missouri Cavalry; Samuel McMinn, Company I, Second Pennsylvania Artillery; E. T. Fearn, Company I, Sixth Wisconsin Infantry; C. A. Van Horn, Company H, Sixteenth Michigan Infantry; A. W. Holmgren, Company H, Twentieth Iowa Infantry; F. Houchin, Company H, Fifty-second Kentucky Mounted Infantry; C. L. Brockman, Company F, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry; W. H. Strohm, Company C, One Hundred and Ninety-second, Pennsylvania Infantry; Samuel Witt, Company F, Seventh Indiana Infantry; Silas Garber, Company D, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry; L. F. Munsell, Company H, Eighth Wisconsin Eagle Regiment Infantry; D. G. Harvey, Company G, Eighth Wisconsin Eagle Regiment Infantry; T. J. Morrow, Company D, Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry; J. H. Helton, Company B, Seventh Indiana Infantry; H. W. Ross, Company D, Twelfth Iowa Infantry; John McCullom, Company D, Fourth Iowa Cavalry; B. H. Frence, Company F, Eighty-fourth Illinois Infantry; Daniel Hilkey, Company E, Thirtieth Indiana Infantry; R. B. Kelley, Company B, Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry; J. Q. Potter, Company A, Sec-

ond Iowa Cavalry; W. H. Wilkison, Company C, Second Wisconsin Cavalry; A. T. Ayers, Thirty-first Iowa Infantry; D. S. Lewis, Company B, Twelfth Ohio Cavalry; A. Calmus, Company A, Twenty-first Illinois Infantry; Richard Turner, Company B, Eleventh Missouri Cavalry; S. B. Bierce, Company F, Thirteenth Michigan Infantry; D. C. Burt, Company B, Sixth Regular United States Infantry; J. W. Warren, Company H, Eleventh Iowa Infantry; Joseph Garber, Company D, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry; D. J. Judson, Company I, Twenty-sixth New York Infantry; J. M. Sellors, Company D, Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry; M. B. McNitt, Company G, Nineteenth Michigan Infantry; A. N. Day, Company K, Twenty-eighth Ohio Vet. Vol. Inf.

The executive committee elected consisted of S. B. Bierce, of Harmony; R. B. Kelley, of Kearney County; W. W. Harvey, of Inavale; F. Houchin, of Red Cloud; J. H. Helton, of Oak Creek; E. W. Edson, of Elm Creek; Samuel Witt, of Stillwater; John McCullom, of Glenwood, and Abram Garber, of Guide Rock.

This association, however, was not kept up, but posts of the Grand Army of the Republic have since been established. There is no class of people, the members of which are more firmly attached each to the other, than the surviving soldiers of the volunteer armies of the United States.

In 1874 the Patrons of Husbandry began to organize in Webster County. Red Cloud Grange was organized March 5, of that year. The first officers were B. E. Swift, Jr., W. M.; William Morgan, O.; Peter Head, I.; Ed. Kellogg, S.; John Barber, A. S.; James Kirkwood, Chap.; George Taylor, Treas.; F. N. Richardson, Sec.; Mrs. B. E. Swift, Las.; Mrs. F. E. Lach, Ceres; Mrs. E. Baldwin, P.; Mrs. S. C. Richardson, F.

Walnut Creek Grange was organized on March 4, of the same year; the original officers being Thomas Vaughn, W. M.; Thomas Kennedy, O.; John Mitchell, L.; Hiram Holdridge, S.; William McKinney, Treas.; R. B. Fulton, Sec.; J. R. Jones, G. K.; Mrs. Albaugh, C.; Mrs. Mitchell, Pom.; Mrs. J. R. Jones, F.; Mrs. M. E. Holdridge, Las.

The same year a Grange was organized at Guide Rock. Other Granges were also organized in 1874, or soon after, throughout the county, and all were well attended, and the principles inculcated adhered to for a series of years, until the members began to neglect them, and they are now mostly supplanted by organizations of the order known as "The Farmers' Alliance." Several of these organizations now exist within the county, their object being similar to that of the order of Patrons of Husbandry—the clubbing together of the farmers for their self-protection. Of one of these, Line Township Alliance, the charter members were Lucien A. Haskins, Carl Gust, Lebon Abauchon, Thomas Leigh, James Beauchamp, C. A. Rosencrans and W. H. Rosencrans.

On February 25, 1876, a meeting was held at Red Cloud, and a resolution was adopted, to the effect that a Farmers', Mechanics' and Merchants' Institute, looking to the interests of the industrial pursuits and business of the county, should be permanently organized. It seems, however, that this effort did not ripen into a permanent organization as contemplated. Local institutes, about this time and thereafter, were held at Walnut Creek, Inavale, and perhaps other points in the county, on which occasions the best methods of husbandry were discussed.

In addition to the court house previously mentioned, the county has a one-story brick building standing a short distance south of the court-house and on the same block, in which are the county clerk's office and the records thereof, including all title records—the county clerk being the register of deeds, mortgages, etc.

The county has also a very neat and substantial jail and jailer's residence combined. The jailer's residence is two stories high, while the wing composing the jail is high enough to admit of one row of cells on top of the first row. The whole building is constructed of brick. The jail contains four iron and two steel cells, so constructed that it is impossible for a prisoner to escape therefrom, if the jailer properly performs his duties. This building was erected in 1889 by the Pauley Jail Building & Manufacturing Company, for the

contract price of \$10,000. As has been stated, the county owns a "poor farm" but no buildings have been constructed, and the poor are not kept there. They are cared for under contracts with different individuals.

In 1870, one year before Webster County was organized, the territory now composing it had a population of 16. In 1872, the year after the organization, 385 males and 309 females, or a total of 694, were within its limits. In 1873 these numbers had increased to 585 males and 503 females, a total of 1,088. The returns of 1874 show an increase of over one hundred per cent, and give a total of 2,250 in the spring before the grasshoppers made their devastating raid. Since then the population of the county, so far as ascertained, has been as follows: 1875, 2,590; 1876, 2,962; 1878, 4,341; 1880, 7,107; 1885, 10,221.

The population of the minor civil divisions of the county in 1885, were: Guide Rock precinct, 1,452; Stillwater precinct, 748; Oak Creek precinct, 588; Garfield precinct, 353; Line precinct 258; Pleasant Hill precinct, 504; Elm Creek precinct, 407; Potsdam precinct, 1,133; Red Cloud precinct including the city, 2,219; Batin precinct, 380; Glenwood precinct, 511; Walnut Creek precinct, 366; Inavale precinct, 559; Harmony precinct, 743.

The population of the minor civil divisions of the county at this writing—April, 1890, as estimated from the votes cast in each at the last election, is as follows: Guide Rock, 1,122; Beaver Creek, 639; Stillwater, 582; Oak Creek, 600; Potsdam including Blue Hill, 1,884; Elm Creek, 660; Pleasant Hill, 462; Garfield, 498; Line, 342; Red Cloud Township, 930; Red Cloud City, 2,448; Batin, 456; Glenwood, 804; Harmony, 720; Catherton, 486; Inavale, 486; Walnut Creek, 438; total, 13,854.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Robertson Adamson, farmer and stockman, Red Cloud, Neb. A gallant soldier for nearly four years in the Federal army, during the late war, and a man whose life has been an active one, and

one not without the substantial reward of years of toil, Mr. Adamson is now successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising on his fine estate of 160 acres. He was born in Grant County, Ind., February 5, 1841, and is the son of Moses and Rachel (Roberts) Adamson. The father was born about 1807, and died at about the age of forty-five years. The mother was born about 1817, and was the daughter of Joseph and — Roberts, probably natives of North Carolina. Robertson Adamson attained his growth in Indiana, received a common school education, and followed agricultural pursuits until the breaking out of the war. He enlisted in December, 1861, and served nearly four years in Company K, Forty-sixth Indiana Veteran Volunteer Infantry. He was in the Department of the Mississippi, and was one of those who bravely assisted in opening the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf. Mr. Adamson was with his company, and took part in the following battles: New Madrid, Riddles, St. Charles, Fort Pemberton, Fort Gibson, Champion's Hill, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Grande Chautau and Mansfield. He was appointed sergeant April 1, 1865, and served in that capacity until the close of the war. He then returned to Indiana, engaged in farming, and was married, September 3, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth A. McCormick, daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Hiatt) McCormick, by whom he had seven children: William P. (born March 14, 1867), James L. (born October 28, 1868), Eppa J. (born November 1, 1870), Charles R. (born August 21, 1872), Myrtie R. (born December 25, 1874), Adda A. (born March 14, 1877) and Georgia A. (born March 19, 1879). Mrs. Adamson died October 28, 1882. Mr. Adamson came west in the fall of 1873, and in the following spring located where he now resides. He was married the second time, November 18, 1887, to Mrs. Amanda G. Edson, widow of Edward W. Edson, who settled in Webster County in 1871. She was the mother of three children by her former marriage: Edna (born May 10, 1872), Adda (born February 18, 1876) and Edith (born September 27, 1879). Mr. Edson was in the Union army, Company I, Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps, First Rifle Regiment, and was in the following

engagements: New Creek (Va.), Hunter's Mill, Drainsville, Harrisburg, Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Catlet Station, Bull Run, Chantilla, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg and others. Edward Edson was born in Bradford, McKean County, Pa., May 18, 1841, and was the son of Cornelius W. and Diana M. (Corwin) Edson, native of New York. Until the last four years Mr. Adamson has voted and labored with the Republican party, and comes of Republican stock, but, in 1886 he became interested in the question of Prohibition, since which time he has espoused its principles and labored in its interests. He is a liberal patron to both schools and churches, and is one of the representative men of the county. He has been identified with the G. A. R. and A. O. U. W., and is one of the charter members of the Willard Creek Alliance, formed in November, 1889.

Marion Alexander, farmer and stock-raiser, Harmony Township. Prominent among the substantial residents of Webster County is Mr. Alexander, who was born in Janesville, Wis., in 1840, immigrated to Beatrice, Neb., in 1869, and thence to Harmony Township, in 1871. He was reared on a farm, and at the age of ten years, on the death of his father, commenced life as a farmer's boy. He received a common-school education, supplemented by a partial academic course. He was married in Hastings, Neb., in 1877, to Miss Kathrine Herriek, born in Ohio, in 1847, and to them have been born four children, viz.: Cora (twelve years of age), Clarence (eight years of age), Otto (a bright little boy of six years), and Delilah (an interesting little girl two years old). Mrs. Alexander received a high-school education, and is an amiable and intelligent lady. The father of our subject was born in Massachusetts in 1801, and died in 1850, his widow, who was born in 1817, surviving until 1867. Mr. Alexander served his country during the late war, enlisting at Madison, Wis., in Company D, Second Wisconsin Infantry, and was assigned to Iron Brigade, Eastern Command, Gen. G. B. McClellan, commander, and engaged in the first battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Gainesville (at which place he was wounded in the left leg and was sent to

Columbian College Hospital, where he remained for five months), second battle of Bull Run, battle of Wilderness, and others, all told about sixteen engagements, and was mustered out at Madison, Wis., at the close of the war. He had one brother killed in the battle of Stony River, Atlanta, Ga., in 1862. In 1870 he entered a soldier's homestead, in Section 13, Harmony Township, to which he has since added until he is now the owner of 640 acres in the fertile bottoms of Blue River, which he devotes principally to the raising of grain, such as wheat, oats, corn and barley, and live-stock. He takes a great interest in raising blooded stock, making a speciality of fine hogs. When he first settled in Nebraska his nearest market was Beatrice, a distance of 108 miles from his home, now he has a good market (Bladen) only one and one-half miles from his farm. He has been a continuous resident of Webster County since 1871, and has experienced the grasshopper scourges of 1874 and 1876, as well as all the drawbacks usual to early settlement. Mr. Alexander has always been a Republican, his first vote being cast for Buchanan, and has taken an active interest in the political affairs of his county and township. He has served for eight years as assessor. He is an active member of the Alliance, an organization which will greatly help the farming interests if supported by all interested. Mr. Alexander is a man who is highly respected by his many friends and neighbors, and is noted for his thrift and enterprise. He expects to spend the remainder of his life in the beautiful State of Nebraska—the State of his adoption—surrounded by plenty and a bright and interesting family.

David A. Anderson, farmer and stock-raiser of Oak Creek Township, Webster County, residing on Section 6, Township 4, Range 9, may be numbered among the pioneer settlers of Webster County, having been identified with the agricultural interests of the county since 1873, at which time he came to Nebraska and filed a soldier's homestead, on which he now lives. This place he has nicely improved, with a thrifty young bearing orchard, a fine young grove, etc., and aside from farming, which he follows on quite a large scale, he

is extensively engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs. Mr. Anderson has experienced all the varying fortunes of a pioneer, has seen the entire growth and improvement of the county, and is well content to make this his permanent home. Mr. Anderson was born in Westchester County, N. Y., in 1842, the oldest child born to John D. and Jane (Geary) Anderson, the father born in Scotland in 1803, a son of John Anderson, Sr. He emigrated to America in his youth, and settled in New York City, engaged in market gardening, and here, in 1835, he married Miss Jane Geary, daughter of William Geary, and a sister of the New York tea merchant of that name. She was born in Ireland in 1800 and died in 1882, her husband having died in Webster County, Neb., in 1880. They both belonged to the United Presbyterian Church. The father was a Republican in politics, and was a very public spirited man, taking a deep interest in all that concerned the welfare of the county. They were the parents of two children: David A. (the subject of this sketch), and Mary J. (who married Adam James, an early resident of Webster County, and is now deceased). David A. Anderson spent his boyhood in New York City, attending school, subsequently accompanying his parents to Illinois, where they engaged in farming in Perry County, our subject attending school in the winter and assisting his father on the farm in the summer. In 1862, when there was a call for men to defend his country's flag, he enlisted in Company C, Eighty-first Illinois Infantry, for three years, and took part in the battles of Vicksburg, Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion's Hill, on May 19 at Vicksburg, and again on the 22d of the same month. He enlisted as a private, and was discharged in August, 1865, as third sergeant. At the close of the war he returned to Illinois and tilled the soil there for two years. In 1867 he was united in the bonds of matrimony to Isabelle Mearns, who was the daughter of Hugh Mearns, by whom he became the father of eight children; seven of these still survive, viz.: William G. (married and farming in Webster County), Mary, John, David, Charles, Anna J., Margaret E. (deceased), and the baby daughter,

Lillie. Mr. Anderson belongs to the G. A. R. post at Lawrence, Neb., also to the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Anderson is a staunch Republican, and takes an active interest in the political as well as educational and religious affairs of the county. He is now filling the office of town clerk, and has served on the school board in District No. 55.

William Arnold is a native of Michigan, born in Cass County, in 1846, the eldest of fourteen children, eleven of whom grew to maturity and are still living—five boys and six girls—born to the union of Oscar and Mariah (Deveney) Arnold. He is descended from the same family as the well-known Benedict Arnold, whose name is much more than local. His father, a native of New York, moved to Michigan in his early youth and there received his education; later he moved to Indiana, and in 1850 moved to Illinois, from whence he immigrated to Nebraska in 1874, locating in the northeastern part of this county, where he died April 2, 1887. In personal appearance he was of a commanding figure—tall and slender. He was an old line Whig, and died universally beloved and respected. His mother, Mariah (Deveney) Arnold, was born in Pennsylvania and was there reared to womanhood. In early life she moved to Ohio, and later to Indiana, where she married Mr. Arnold. She still resides on the old homestead with her youngest daughter. Grandfather Samuel Arnold served in the War of 1812, on the brig "Oneida" (on the lakes) under Commodore Woolsey. As a youth he was very promising, and when he left the brig "Oneida," to go with an uncle in the land forces to Boston Harbor, Com. Woolsey came clear to his father's house after him, as he felt so sure that with proper opportunities Mr. Arnold would become a man of note. While in the land forces a wrestling match was formed between him (then a lad) and a trooper. The trooper, a vicious fellow, scratched the boy's leg with his spur, when the boy, with a sudden and telling effort, struck the trooper and knocked him down. Great grandfather Edward Arnold was born in Connecticut, receiving a section of land from Lafarge. He mar-

ried a Miss Ellis, by whom he became the father of fifteen children. He died in Indiana. The Deveneyns were Irish. The maternal grandmother's name was Kitherwood. When William Arnold, the subject of this sketch, was but four years old, his parents moved to Illinois, where his boyhood was spent. He received his education at the Northwestern College, Plainfield, Ill., and after completing his education engaged in teaching school, first in Illinois, then in Iowa, and later in Nebraska, whither he had moved in 1875. He married Miss Elmira Dice, a native of Ohio, born in 1847, by whom he has seven children, viz.: Frank, Hattie, Fred, Blanche, Eugene, Orra and Dallas. Hattie and Blanche are successful educators of Webster County. Miss Hattie taught her first school when she was fourteen years of age, and Miss Blanche, who holds a good second-grade certificate, engaged in teaching before she was thirteen years of age. Upon his arrival here in 1875 Mr. Arnold immediately entered 480 acres of excellent land, on which he now resides. He devotes considerable attention to raising cattle, sheep and hogs, owning about 700 head of sheep and 200 head of hogs. He belongs to Lodge 129, A. F. & A. M., of which he is an interested member, and belongs to the Alliance. In his political views he thinks the government should issue paper money, and is in favor of tariff and transportation reform. He is a leading spirit of the Alliance movement, and is a modest, intelligent man.

George Bailey, farmer of Beaver Township, came originally from the "Empire State," where he was born in Jefferson County, April 20, 1819, a son of George Bailey, who was born in Vermont, and there married Miss Olive Cason, also a native of Vermont. He moved to Jefferson County, N. Y., in early manhood, and there engaged successfully in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1838. The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood on his father's farm in Jefferson County, remaining with his father until his death. After attaining his majority he moved to Wisconsin, settling in Kenosha County, being one of the early pioneers of that State, and here he made a farm on which he lived until 1873. At

that time he came to Nebraska and settled in Webster County, took up 160 acres of wild prairie land, which he has since converted into a good farm. May 22, 1841, Mr. Bailey was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Smith, daughter of Elisha Smith, by whom he became the father of seven children, viz.: Jerome A. (whose sketch appears in this work), Judson H. (also represented in this work), Adelbert (a resident of Mankato, Kas.), Harvey (unmarried and living in Nuckolls County), Frank W. (also of Nuckolls), Herbert S. (unmarried and living at home), and Lonette. Adelbert is register of deeds for Jewell County, Kas., and his sister, Lonette, is his deputy. Mrs. Bailey was born and reared in Jefferson County, N. Y., and both she and Mr. Bailey are members of the Guide Rock Baptist Church.

Jerome A. Bailey, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. There is generally more or less similarity in the sketches of those who have for the most part been engaged in agricultural pursuits from boyhood, but Mr. Bailey's career has been sufficiently diversified to render him well posted with different affairs, people, etc. The State of his nativity is Wisconsin, where he was born, in Kenosha County, September 1, 1844, being a son of George and Lydia (Smith) Bailey, both natives of New York. In the spring of 1844 they removed from New York to Wisconsin, being among the pioneer settlers of Kenosha County. Here they made their home until 1875, and then sold out and came to Nebraska, locating in Webster County, where the father took up a homestead on which he is now living—a hale, hearty old gentleman of seventy-two years; his wife also survives, and enjoys extremely good health for an old lady. Jerome A. Bailey grew to manhood in Wisconsin. In January, 1864, he enlisted in Company H, Thirty-third Wisconsin Infantry, and served until he was honorably discharged in May, 1865. After receiving his discharge he returned to his home in Wisconsin, remaining here a few years, then in the spring of 1871 he moved to Chicago and engaged in the grocery business, being at that place during the great fire of 1871. He resided in Chicago for eight years, and then, in 1878, came to Nebraska and purchased the 160 acres of land on which he now

lives, five miles northeast of Guide Rock. He has 110 acres under cultivation, with a thriving young orchard, a neat one-and-one-half-story dwelling, good barn and out-buildings, besides numerous other improvements. In his political views he sides with the Republican party, and has filled several local offices of honor and trust, having served two terms as assessor and two years as magistrate, and is the present road supervisor. Mr. Bailey was married in Kenosha County, Wis., January 2, 1866, to Miss Cynthia A. Pulver, born in New York, but lately a resident of Wisconsin. Mrs. Bailey was born, reared and educated in Columbia County, N. Y., and previous to her marriage was a teacher in Chicago. This union resulted in the birth of six children, viz.: George S., Ida Jane, Roy A., Irving J., Floyd Earl and Ernest. George, Ida and Roy are living at home. Irving J. died in the fall of 1889, in his seventeenth year; Floyd E. died in the fall of 1889, at about the same time as his brother Irving, aged three years, and Ernest died in Chicago in infancy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bailey are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Bailey belongs to the G. A. R., was commander of his post for two years, and is holding an office of trust in the post at the present time.

J. H. Bailey, a native of Wisconsin, was born in Kenosha County in 1847, to the union of George and Lydia (Smith) Bailey. His father was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., and grew to manhood in his native State. After reaching years of discretion he went to Michigan, thence to Wisconsin, and in 1878 came to Guide Rock, this county, where he and his estimable wife are at present residing. His wife was also a native of the "Empire State," born in 1821. She is now sixty-nine years of age, and her husband is seventy-two, but they are both stout for their years. There were eight children—six sons and two daughters—born to their marriage, all of the sons still living. The mother is a member of the Baptist Church. The father was a Democrat until after he voted for Fremont, since which time he has been a Republican. The immediate subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native State, and upon

reaching early manhood engaged in teaching school, first in Wisconsin, later in Illinois, and then in this county. He came here in 1871 and entered 160 acres of land, and for many years alternated in teaching and farming. He was married in Wisconsin to Miss Alda Lamson, born in New York September 2, 1849, but reared in New York and Wisconsin, where she also was engaged in "teaching the young idea." Immediately after their marriage they came directly to this county, and here, after a happy life of fourteen years, the wife died, leaving six young children, namely: Ola, Alice, Mabel, Willie, Grant and Verne. In 1885 Mr. Bailey was elected county clerk and served in this capacity for four consecutive years. About the same time he opened his abstract, loan and real estate office, which he is still conducting, doing a very profitable business, the firm of which he is a member being known as Bailey & Crone. He still owns his original 160 acres of land, besides considerable town property. In his political views he is a Republican.

G. W. Baker, farmer, Pleasant Hill, Neb. This name is not unfamiliar to those in the vicinity of Pleasant Hill as well as others in the county, for he who bears it is numbered among the highly respected citizens of this community. Born in the Buckeye State in 1838, he is the youngest of six children, four now living, the result of the union of G. W. and Jane (Logan) Baker, the father a native of Vermont and the mother of Pennsylvania. G. W. Baker, Sr., was born in 1798, and was a prominent tiller of the soil. He died in 1840. The mother with her children then moved to Iowa (1854), located in Cedar County, and there remained for three years, after which they moved to Keokuk County of the same State. G. W. Baker, Jr., remained there until 1884, when he came to Nebraska. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Fortieth Iowa Infantry, and served in various army corps. He participated in the battles of Vicksburg and Little Rock, and was then detached. He was with Gen. Sherman on his memorable march to the sea, but previously had been in the Camden raid. He was discharged at Port Gibson in August, 1865, and returned home. On the 5th

of September, 1865, he was united in marriage to Miss Nancy K. Story, a native also of Ohio, and the fruits of this union are six living children: Minnie V. (born February 6, 1867, and is now the wife of Fred Frase), Emery A. (born May 30, 1870, and died in 1874), Clara J. and Alta M. (twins, born February 17, 1873), Florence M. (born October 25, 1876), Susan E. (born December 11, 1878) and Ida Nancy (born October 30, 1883). Mr. Baker moved to Webster County, Neb., in 1884, as above stated, and settled on his present farm, which he in a very short time improved by erecting good, substantial buildings, setting out orchards and making numerous other improvements to render the home pleasant and attractive. He owns 240 acres well fenced and stocked, and it is not exaggerating in the least to say that he has one of the best farms in the county. He raises nothing but the best grade of stock, and he recently sold ten hogs, nine and a half months old, that averaged a little over 300 pounds. Mr. Baker is a member of Garfield Post No. 80, at Red Cloud, and is also a member of the Farmers' Alliance. Mrs. Baker's parents, Dr. Nehemiah and Clarissa J. (Carl) Story, were natives respectively of Maine and New York, and her grandfather, Nehemiah Story, was also a native of Maine. Mrs. Baker is one of six children, all of whom are still living in Iowa except herself and one sister, Mrs. Lewis. She has a niece who is a prominent physician, and a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago.

William H. Barcus deserves mention as a leading farmer and stock-raiser of Beaver Township, Webster County. He was born in Franklin County, Ind., April 18, 1840, a son of Warner and Mary (Mann) Barcus, the former born in Delaware and the latter in Indiana. When Warner Barcus was a child he lost his parents, and was taken to Indiana, where he has since resided. He is a farmer and mechanic by occupation, and both he and wife are living in Hamilton County, whither they moved in 1844, among the pioneers of that place. Since his residence in this county he has filled many offices of trust and honor. William H. Barcus grew to manhood in Hamilton County, Ind.,

and at the age of twenty-two years, in the fall of 1862, he enlisted for three years in the Eighth Iowa Cavalry, and was honorably discharged in May, 1865. He went into the army as a private, but by his meritorious conduct and strict attention to duty, he was soon promoted to sergeant, and soon afterward to first lieutenant. He was engaged in the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, besides battles of lesser importance and many skirmishes. He was taken prisoner on Stoneman's raid, but after six days he made his escape and returned to his regiment at Marietta. He had charge of his company at the battles of Franklin and Nashville, and soon after the latter battle was wounded in the leg by a gunshot and disabled for about six months. This wound sent him to the hospital and kept him there until the close of the war; he was mustered out on crutches. When the war was over he returned to Iowa, soon after returning to Indiana on a visit, and then locating in Warren County, Iowa, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1871, at which time he moved to Missouri and located in Harrison County, where he was engaged in farming and trading and shipping stock for nine years. In 1880 he moved to Nebraska and located on his present property. This is the third farm he has improved. He is the owner of 200 acres of good land two and one half miles due north of Guide Rock, all of which is fenced and well improved, with a good house, barn, etc., etc., and a fine orchard of 700 choice trees, 200 grape vines, besides cherry and plums, and other small fruits. Mr. Barcus is Republican in politics and supports the men and measures of his party. While a resident of Missouri he served four years as deputy sheriff of Harrison County, and filled several other local offices. He was elected justice of the peace, but never qualified. In 1887 he was elected township supervisor, was re-elected in 1888, and again in 1889, serving for three consecutive terms. Mr. Barcus was married in Warren County, Iowa, March 29, 1867, to Miss Elizabeth J. Morris, daughter of William Morris, born and reared in Indiana, and this union has been blessed in the birth of two children: Emma, wife of Benjamin Ross of this county, and

William Arthur, a young man at home. Mr. Barcus and wife are both members of the Quaker Church. In secret societies Mr. Barcus belongs to the A. O. U. W., the G. A. R., and the Farmers' Alliance, being vice-president of his local Alliance.

Matthäus Benker. Among the many substantial farmers Germany has contributed to Webster County, none are more deserving of prominent mention than Matthäus Benker, whose name heads this sketch. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1849, the oldest of four children reared by John and Frederica (Smith) Benker, both of whom were born in Germany. They were married in Germany and there reared their family, consisting of Matthäus, John, George and Margaret. The father, a wagon-maker by trade, served in the German army, and died in his native land on August 2, 1880. Both he and wife were members of the Lutheran Church. The latter came to America in 1883 and is now making her home with her son, the subject of this sketch. Matthäus Benker was reared in Germany, and, like all German boys, received a very good education, and at the age of twenty-one entered the army, in which he served for three years. In 1872 he emigrated to this country, and in 1874 he came to Nebraska and took up 160 acres of land in Webster County, since which he has purchased eighty acres, making him an excellent farm of 240 acres, 150 of which are under the plow. On this he has a fine growing orchard and a nice grove. He and wife, formerly Miss Margaret Purucker, a native of Germany, were the parents of seven children, viz.: Adam, George, Anna, John, Max, Louis and Christian. In his political views Mr. Benker affiliates with the Democratic party. He has now been a resident of Webster County for fifteen years, and has been very successful during this time. He is quite extensively engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs, keeping about fifty head of stock, and is considered to be one of the best farmers in this part of the county. He and wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

Ezra Bishop, a prominent contractor and builder of Blue Hill, Webster County, Neb., was born at Phelps, Ontario County, N. Y., in 1848,

and was the third in a family of six boys reared by Joseph and Charlotte (Puffer) Bishop. His father, a native of New York, was one of the prominent farmers of that State, and was there married to Charlotte Puffer, who was also born in New York. To this union six sons were born, namely: Robert (deceased), Solomon, Ezra, Ira and Ira B. (both deceased) and Joseph. The father died in 1865, but the mother is still living and resides in Indiana. Ezra Bishop attended school and worked on the farm until he had reached years of discretion, when he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for two or three years in Seneca County, N. Y., and in 1871 went to Illinois, locating at Odell, Livingston County, where he carried on contracting and building for a number of years. Later he engaged in the carriage and wagon-making business, which he carried on up to 1884. In 1880 he came to Webster County and purchased 320 acres of land in Elm Creek Township, and in 1884 moved with his family and settled at Blue Hill, engaging in contracting and building, and for the past six years he has been the most prominent and principal builder in this part of Webster and Adams Counties. He is an able mechanic, and has built most of the best buildings in Blue Hill, as well as the greater part of the best improvements that have gone up within a scope of fifteen or twenty miles around Blue Hill, and has won for himself a reputation for honest, substantial work, which has followed him wherever he has lived, and in the city of Blue Hill, as well as elsewhere, he has many warm friends. Mr. Bishop was married in York State, in 1874, to Miss Libbie Porter, daughter of George W. and Salina (Birdsey) Porter. She was born in New York in 1852, and this union has been blessed in the birth of a daughter, Lottie J., born at Odell, Ill., in 1876. Mr. Bishop is a prominent citizen of Blue Hill, and takes a deep interest in all things pertaining to the welfare of the people. He casts his vote with the Democratic party.

John Blaine, of Cowles, Neb., was born in the year 1825 of Scotch parents, and arrived in the United States in September, 1840, making his home in Erie, Pa., until 1849, when he emigrated

to the State of Illinois, and lived in Bureau County, until March, 1862, at which time he enlisted in the Sixty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, otherwise known as the Cameron Highlanders. The regiment was organized at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and went to the front in the spring of 1862, camping near Winchester, Va. Just before the battle of Antietam the regiment was ordered to Harper's Ferry, and shortly after their arrival there, Stonewall Jackson, of the Rebel army, besieged the camp, and the result was that Col. Miles, of the United States army, surrendered over 5,000 men to Gen. Jackson. They were paroled until exchanged, and in the spring of 1863 went to Lexington, Ky., from there up the Big Sandy River in Eastern Kentucky, where they remained until in July of 1863. About this time Gen. Morgan made his raid through Ohio, and Mr. Blaine's regiment was moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, and Covington, Ky., thence to Lexington, Ky., after which they marched across the Cumberland Mountains into East Tennessee. They remained in camp for a short time at Concord, after which they went to Knoxville, where they were besieged by Gen. Longstreet's army, and were engaged in daily skirmishes for about three weeks. A portion of this time they were limited to quarter rations of bran bread, but about December 20, 1863, they marched out after Longstreet, crossed the Holston River and marched to Dandridge, but were again compelled to fall back to Knoxville, as Longstreet had received re-inforcements. Mr. Blaine's command then made several marches through East Tennessee to the old home of Andrew Johnson. In the spring of 1864 the regiment re-enlisted as veterans, and Mr. Blaine joined Gen. Sherman at Resaca, Ga.; they were in the daily skirmishes of the Georgia campaign, until they advanced to Atlanta. After the battle which occurred on July 22 and 24, 1864, they struck the railroad south of Atlanta, and assisted in the battle of Jonesboro, after which they went to Lovejoy Station. The regiment was near Jonesboro when the Rebels blew up their magazines and destroyed their stores in Atlanta, and soon after they went to Gaylesville, Ala., where

Gen. Sherman's army was divided, the Fourth and the Twenty-third Army Corps going after Hood, Mr. Blaine being a member of the latter corps. From Gaylesville they went to Dalton, Ga., thence to Nashville, Tenn., and from there to Pulaski. From Atlanta they went to Altoona to the relief of troops there commanded by Gen. Corse, and then followed Hood up to the Tennessee River, camping at Pulaski, Hood being at Florence, Ala. From Pulaski they went to Columbia, Tenn., there meeting Hood's advance army, which resulted in five days of skirmishing in order to prevent the latter from crossing Duck River. They left the river at eleven o'clock at night, traveled all night, arriving at Franklin, Tenn., on the morning of November 30. In the afternoon they were attacked by Hood, who advanced to within fifty paces of their line of battle before a shot was fired. The Union army then fired twelve rounds, and when the smoke lifted, no enemy appeared in their front. The Rebels made thirteen distinct attacks, keeping it up until eleven o'clock p. m., when the Union army started on the march to Nashville, reaching that place the following day. They remained there camped at Fort Negley until December 14, when they again "measured swords" with Hood, and the battle of Nashville was fought. The latter's army was broken up and eighty pieces of artillery taken, together with most of the small arms. They then followed the remnant of the Rebel army to the Tennessee River, after which Mr. Blaine went with his command to Washington, D. C., thence to Fort Fisher. N. C., then took part in the battle of Wilmington, from which place, until they reached Goldsboro, they were in a number of skirmishes. At the latter place they met Sherman's army coming from Savannah. The army was on the march from Goldsboro to Raleigh when the news reached it that Lee had surrendered, and he was in Raleigh when the news of President Lincoln's assassination came, and to the praise and honor of the Union troops be it said that no citizens were molested or harmed, although there were five army corps of veterans encamped in and around Raleigh. Mr. Blaine took part in the review at Raleigh as an officer on Gen. Casement's staff,

and soon after made application to be relieved, as the war had closed. He was mustered out of service August 10, 1865, and returned home. He was married, in 1848, to Miss Annie M. Barry, of New York, a daughter of John and Eunice (Sweet) Barry, and four of the five children born to them are now living: John B., Charles C. (who is station agent at Mount Clare, Neb.), William B. (in Denton, Texas) and Jennie (a school teacher of Webster County). Mr. Blaine is a member of the G. A. R., the F. & A. M., and he and family are members of the Baptist Church.

J. W. Boomer, assessor of Glenwood Township, was elected to this office in 1889, and has filled it in a capable and efficient manner ever since. He was born in New Jersey in 1850, was reared to the arduous duties of the farm, and secured a fair education in the schools of Winnebago County, Ill. He enlisted in the army, but was too young to serve. His marriage occurred in Ogle County, Ill., in 1870, to Miss Martha Banks, a native of Canada, and the daughter of Samuel and Chloe (Clother) Banks, natives also of Canada. In about 1852 Mr. and Mrs. Banks came to Ogle County, Ill., engaged in farming, and in 1884 came to Nebraska, settling on railroad land in Webster County, where the father improved an extensive farm. Mr. Boomer farmed in Ogle County, Ill., until coming to Nebraska, and since his residence in this county he has made vast improvements in the farm of 160 acres, purchased from W. D. Martin in 1888. Mr. Boomer takes considerable interest in politics, and votes with the Prohibition party. He is also active in school matters. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are members of the Union Baptist Church. Their married life has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Sarah E. (now Mrs. Kershner), Samuel, Wilbur, Raymond, Florence and Mabel. Mr. Boomer was the third in a family of eight children born to the union of John and Margaret (Johnson) Boomer, natives of Scotland, where their nuptials were celebrated. In 1844 the parents left their native land and took passage for the United States. They located in New Jersey, and in 1854 moved to Rockford, Ill., settling on the farm of

Thomas Robertson. Later they bought good land near the present town of Davis Junction, and there resided until 1875, when they emigrated to Gage County, Neb., where they make their home in the city of Beatrice.

James Brewer, who lives on the northeast quarter of Section 15, Town 4, Range 12, Webster County, Neb., emigrated here from Poweshiek County, Iowa, in 1876, during the grasshopper scourge. He owes his nativity to Ohio, where he was born in Ross County, November 5, 1824, and was reared as a farmer's boy until he had attained his sixteenth year, when he left the farm for a life on the boats plying on the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, and the ripe anecdotes and reminiscences of "Uncle Jimmie's" life at this time would alone fill a volume. He first engaged as a musician, playing for balls and dances, the most made being \$60 in one week, on the steamers "Evast," "Hibernia," "Arcadia," "Lancaster," and many others, and he also served as mate on the steamer "Governor Briggs." In Peoria, Ill., in 1846, Miss Jane Dixon, also born in Ross County, Ohio, became his wife, and in 1852 they immigrated from Peoria, Ill., to Poweshiek County, Iowa. Mr. Brewer came to Nebraska in 1876, and purchased a pre-emption claim, the improvements on which consisted of a dug-out and about forty acres broken, and homesteaded the same 160 acres, which gave him a farm of 160 acres of fine land. He has since sold eighty acres of this. Of the ten children born to his union Elisha (born October 14, 1848) is living in Blue Hill, Neb., where he is conducting a successful business; Ira B. (born October 6, 1850) is dead; Sylvester (born May 11, 1852) lives at Litchfield, Neb., where he is engaged as a blacksmith and mechanic; Clara and Mary, twins, were born January 2, 1855; Clara is now deceased, and Mary is now Mrs. Parkes, and resides in Custer County; her husband is a farmer and stock-raiser; Martha (born September 12, 1857) wedded a Mr. McCoy, a farmer and stock-raiser, and resides in Webster County; Emeline (born September 1, 1860) is now Mrs. Decker; her husband is a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Buffalo County, Neb.; Chris-

tina Jane (born November 5, 1832) married J. W. McCoy, a farmer of Webster County; Minnie (born December 1, 1864) is now Mrs. Watson, and resides in Webster County, where her husband is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of blooded stock; James Forest (born May 16, 1871) resides on the old homestead. He received an excellent common-school education, but is ambitious for a higher education. He is of a musical turn of mind, and is rather popular among his associates. James Brewer, the subject of this sketch, received his first training in the old day subscription schools in Ohio, which were very meager indeed. After he reached Illinois his desire for a more extended course was appeased by about three months' schooling, and all he knows he has learned by coming in contact with persons who were liberally educated with the practical of life. Mr. Brewer speaks interestingly of the early pioneer days of this State, when the homes of the settlers were surrounded by stockades to guard against the treacherous Indians, who were constantly marauding through the country, and calls to mind all the trials and vicissitudes of the early inhabitant. The Indians were very plentiful at that day in the immediate vicinity of his home, and his experience with them in Iowa was also varied and interesting. While in Iowa Mr. Brewer served very satisfactorily as justice of the peace, and was appointed by the school fund commissioners (in Poweshiek county) to lay off a township in school districts, which work he accomplished so well as to meet the commendation of the entire community. While here he also endured the privations incident to early settlement, on one occasion going fifty miles to mill for a bushel and a half of meal. When he first located in Webster County the most of his trading was done at Hastings, Neb., a distance of twenty-eight miles. Now civilization and improvement have advanced so steadily that railroad facilities have placed his home within three miles of Bladen, a flourishing town of Webster County. Mr. Brewer relates that December 19, 1876, he, in company with John McCoy and Sylvester Brewer, started from Webster County on a hunting tour in the cañons of Loup River, about

sixteen miles from Manitoba, a hunter's ranch. While there a terrific snow storm arose and found them without the necessary conveniences of even camp life. They laid a buffalo robe upon the snow, with a few quilts for covering, and there upon the bleak ground the party was bivouacked. The snow was from twelve to fourteen inches on a level, and the thermometer stood 20° below zero. The cold was so intense that the horses were almost frozen to death, and the company, so "Uncle Jim" relates, passed three of the coldest nights ever experienced. Many pleasing and thrilling tales and anecdotes can Mr. Brewer relate which are highly interesting to all who are partial to pioneer life. He tells of slaying thirty-six white-tailed deer in one winter, while living in Iowa. Mr. Brewer has always been identified with the Democratic party, and has ever stood on sound and conscientious convictions. He is an ardent supporter of the organization so well known in Nebraska as the Farmers' Alliance. This organization is being supported by the best and most prominent citizens and residents of Nebraska. He does not belong to any secret societies now, nor has he ever belonged to any such. Both he and wife advocate the Adventist doctrine, and are recognized as responsible and representative citizens and members of society in their vicinity. Their parents were ardent Christians, and they received an early Christian training in honesty, integrity and sterling worth. They are now living happy and contented on the old homestead, and are enjoying reasonably good health for old people. Mr. Brewer's credit and standing in financial circles is pronounced to be good in every respect. "Uncle Jimmie," now aged sixty-six years, loves to entertain his many friends by playing upon the violin such old, sweet melodies as "The Arkansaw Traveler," "Opera Reel," "Van Buren's Cotillion," "Campbell's Coming," and "Kittie's Ramble," which all old settlers will vividly remember.

H. W. Brewer is a grain dealer of Red Cloud, Neb., who has reached his present position by his own energy, enterprise and forethought. He was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., in 1840, his parents being John and Cynthia A. (Hills) Brewer, the former

being also a native of the "Empire State," his birth occurring January 24, 1806. He removed with his family to Tazewell County, Ill., in 1843, and settled near the town of Tremont, but in 1848 removed to Wisconsin, where he made his permanent home, and here reared his family. In this State H. W. Brewer grew to mature years, and obtained a sufficient knowledge of books, for all practical purposes, in the common schools near his home. He commenced to learn the printing business at the age of ten, working at it till the spring of 1861, when he went to Denver, Colo., where he was foreman of the Territorial printing, printing the laws and proceedings of the first Territorial Legislature. In April, 1862, he, with another printer, built a boat at the foot of G Street, and the two made the first trip from Denver to the Missouri River, down the Platte, arriving at St. Joseph, Mo., June 1, working in an office at Kansas City during the summer of 1862, when he returned to Wisconsin. He again started out in life for himself by removing from Wisconsin to Lombardville, Stark County, Ill., in 1871, where he engaged in the grain, lumber and implement business, the firm being known as Brewer, Davies & Co., and at this point made his home until 1882, at which time he came to Red Cloud, Neb., and has since been occupied in operating his present elevator, being also the owner of a like institution at Campbell, Franklin County, Neb. Mr. Brewer is a man very socially inclined, and is a member of the following organizations: A. F. & A. M., in which he has attained to the Royal Arch degree; the A. O. U. W. and the I. O. G. T. Until 1880 he was identified with the Republican party, but has since been numbered with the Prohibition party, and is one of its most ardent workers. In December, 1866, he took for his companion through life Miss Martha L. Pilling, and by her has had a family of three children: Myra B. (Mrs. E. A. Enright, of Albion, Neb.), Henry A. and Charles W. The family are members of the Christian Church, and are estimable people in every respect.

William Britton, one of the early pioneer settlers of Webster County, was born in New Jersey, in 1833, being the second of eight children born to

Thomas and Mary (Neece) Britton, both of whom were born in New Jersey, there passing their life and died, the former in 1880 and the latter in 1883. The father was a farmer by occupation. The subject of this brief biographical sketch was reared to farm life, and educated in the subscription schools of his native State. In 1855 he went to Ohio, and in 1867 was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Cramer, daughter of Mahlon and Rebecca (Warman) Cramer, natives of Ohio, and both of them now deceased. In 1870 Mr. Britton moved to Coles County, Ill., and engaged in tilling the soil, near Mattoon, until 1874, at which time he came to Webster County and homesteaded 160 acres of choice land, on which he erected the first house on the ridge south of Hastings, camping out on the wild prairie until his house was completed. Soon after their arrival they were burned out by a prairie fire, and lost two valuable horses. The family had many hardships to endure during the early days of their residence in the new country, and at one time Mr. Britton was obliged to pawn his watch and a carpet for 300 pounds of flour, with which to keep the wolf from the door. When they came to Webster County, the nearest marketing place was Hastings, to which point they were obliged to haul their produce and grain and make their purchases. Mr. Britton has seen the country develop from a wild, uninhabited district, and he has done much in bringing about this change, and well deserves the honor and esteem in which he is held. He now owns 240 acres of excellent land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation, and improved with good buildings, etc. He is greatly interested in fruit culture, and has planted a good, large apple orchard, besides peaches and an abundance of small fruit. He is largely engaged in stock-raising, and raises a good grade of Durham stock. In his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party, having filled several local offices, and is now serving on the school board. He assisted in organizing the township and school district. Mr. and Mrs. Britton have had three children: Ida (now Mrs. McClure, of Oregon), William and Edward. Mrs. Britton belongs to the United Brethren Church.

William E. Buker, Oak Creek Township, Webster County, is another of the prominent and well-to-do farmers of this section, and like a great many of that class of people in the community owes his nativity to Iowa. He was born in Muscatine County, Iowa, in 1847, the oldest in a family of four children raised by James and Sophia (Reed) Buker. His father, a cooper by trade, was born in Barding, Me., and left home while still a boy, and after roaming around considerably he finally settled in Iowa, among the very first settlers. He was married in that State, in 1845, to Miss Sophia Reed, and five children were the result of this union, viz.: William (our subject), Mary, Amanda, Carrie and Lucy. The father worked at the cooper's trade in Iowa with good success for a number of years, but in 1858 he closed his eyes to the scenes of this world forever. The mother is still living in Iowa. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his school days in Iowa, and at the age of fifteen he started out in life by learning the wagon-making business. He worked at this for nearly one year, and then, in 1863, he enlisted in Company H, Second Iowa Cavalry, and after a service of nine months, during which time he participated in several severe skirmishes, he was discharged in 1865, immediately after which he went to Iowa and followed his trade. He was married there in 1869 to Miss Martha E. George, daughter of Martin George, of Iowa. She was born in Pennsylvania. To this marriage have been given seven children, five of whom are still living and two dead, viz.: George W., Aleetus E., Mirtie M., Edna (deceased in Iowa), Frank A., Eva E. and Rose (deceased in Nebraska). Mr. Buker immigrated with his family to Nebraska in April, 1881, and settled in Webster County, where he now lives, and has since met with very good success. He has 160 acres of good tillable land, which is well improved with neat buildings, etc., and a fine young orchard and nice grove, and is extensively engaged in raising horses, cattle and hogs. He was appointed postmaster of Negunda office in 1887, and is still efficiently discharging the duties of that office. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party, and has been honored by his

constituents with the office of justice of the peace, township school director and road overseer, at various times. He is a member of the K. of P. Lodge, and belongs to the Alliance.

John O. Burgess, vice-president of the Blue Hill Bank, was born near the town of Banbury, Northamptonshire, England, July 23, 1854, being a son of Thomas and Martha Burgess, the latter dying when the subject of this sketch was three years of age, and the former when he was about eleven. He received very good educational advantages in his native land at the Royal Latin School, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire, and at the age of seventeen years he accompanied an elder brother to America, the latter's name being William, he being now a resident of Saline County, Neb. For three years after he arrived in this country, John O. made his home with his brother, and for some time his summers were spent in tilling the soil and his winters in teaching school. After a certain period he went to Lincoln, Neb., where he spent four years in the employ of Joseph Wittmann, a wholesale and retail harness dealer, a trade to which Mr. Burgess had given considerable attention and partially learned in Broadway, Worcestershire, England, and during the time spent with Mr. Wittmann, he completed his knowledge of the business, and also performed the duties of shipping clerk. In 1879 he located in Blue Hill, and from that time until April 1, 1890, he conducted a first-class harness shop at that place. On April 1, of the previous year, he engaged in the banking business as a member of the firm of R. A. Simpson & Co., but upon the organization of the Blue Hill Bank in August, 1889, he was elected its vice-president, a position he has since held. Mr. Burgess was married on October 6, 1881, to Miss Jennie Tyler, who was born in England, a daughter of George and Jane (Price) Tyler, with whom she came to America in 1871. She and her husband are members of the Episcopal Church, and the former belongs to the K. of P., and in his political views is a Democrat. He has been justice of the peace for three years, is a highly esteemed citizen, and is a man of unswerving integrity and honesty. In 1889 he and his

wife visited their native land and afterward the Paris Exposition.

George L. Burr is a well-known journalist of this section of the country, and is the present efficient editor and proprietor of the Blue Hill Times. His birth occurred in Mount Pleasant, Henry County, Iowa, July 12, 1859, his father being Edwin M. Burr, an able lawyer, and the present proprietor and editor of the Republican Valley Echo, of Riverton, Neb. The latter was born in Ohio, and in early manhood accompanied his parents, William and Harriet M. (Castle) Burr, to Henry County, Iowa, and his literary education was finished in Howe's High School. He subsequently studied law and was admitted to the bar, soon showing himself to be possessed of much ability and legal acumen, and he very successfully continued to practice his profession in the States of Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. In 1866 he was the candidate of the Republican party for Congress, his home then being at Keytesville, Chariton County, Mo. The paternal grandfather of our subject, William Burr, emigrated to Montana and located on the present site of Diamond City, building the first house in that place. He is still living, his present home being in Riverton, Neb. The mother of the subject of this sketch, before her marriage, was Margaret J. Chandler, a daughter of Ebenezer and Lucinda Chandler, who were among the earliest settlers of Henry County, Iowa. When George L. Burr was about six years of age his parents removed from Iowa to Keytesville, Mo., in the public schools of which place he received his earlier education. He was very studious in his youth, and by applying himself diligently to his studies by the time he was twelve years of age he had completed the common branches, and in addition to that had obtained a knowledge of higher arithmetic, algebra, and had begun the study of Latin. At the age of thirteen years he accompanied his parents to Smith Center, Kas., and here, at the age of eighteen, he began his career as a teacher, an occupation he continued to follow for nine terms in Smith and Osborne Counties, Kas. During two terms he was principal of the Smith Center schools, and of the Gaylord schools of the

same county for two years. At spare moments, during his career as an educator, he devoted his attention to the study of law and became sufficiently familiar with this science to commence practicing. He was married on July 12, 1880, to Miss Hattie S. Bonnette, a daughter of Rev. L. M. Bonnette, who was at that time pastor of the Congregational Church at Smith Center. In 1882 Mr. Burr purchased the Smith County Record, a paper he owned and edited very successfully for about two years. He then established the Riverton Enterprise, which he sold to his father, after editing it for three or four years. In December, 1887, he bought the Webster County Winner, published at Blue Hill, Neb., and on March 12, 1888, he also purchased the Blue Hill Times and consolidated the two papers. From that time until October 4, 1889, his paper bore the name of the Times Winner, after which he changed the name to the Blue Hills Times, a name it still bears. Mr. Burr has been connected with several different papers in the State of Nebraska. In December, 1887, he became a one-half owner in the Stratton Gazette, which he sold at an excellent profit five months later. At different times he has owned and edited the Campbell Press, the Curtis Courier and the Lawrence Locomotive. Mr. Burr's papers have all been edited in the interests of the Republican party, of which he is a member, and he is considered an able writer and a successful journalist. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and their union has been blessed in the birth of three children: Edwin M., Albert L. and Fred. The eldest child died October 16, 1889, of diphtheria, aged seven years five months and one day.

Byron C. Burt, farmer and stock-raiser, Harmony Township, Webster County. In reviewing the lives of prominent citizens of Webster County, the name of Byron C. Burt is justly given an enviable position, for it is difficult to find one of the present day more entitled to honorable mention or who possesses to such an extent the esteem of his acquaintances. He was born in Medina County, Ohio, May 17, 1844. His parents were born in New York in 1806 and 1812, respectively, and had a family of five children, viz.: Franklin, Giles,

Burton, Byron C. and Nancy. Franklin, the eldest, was born in Ohio, in 1830, and is now a successful agriculturist; Giles was born in Ohio in 1834, and is now engaged in tilling the soil in Wisconsin; Burton was born in Ohio, in 1840, and is farming in Cass County; Byron C. is the subject of this sketch, and Nancy, born in 1858, in Ohio, was married to William Wilber, a farmer by occupation. Mr. Burt came to Nebraska in the early days of its history, and took a soldier's homestead of 160 acres and purchased 340 acres—160 in one tract, 160 in another tract located in Section 2, Franklin County, and twenty acres near Campbell, thus making him a fine farm of 500 acres, all raw prairie land, which he immediately set to work to improve, and now has it all under a high state of cultivation, and it is considered to be as valuable land as any to be found in the county. Besides his farming operations, which Mr. Burt carries on extensively, he is largely interested in stock-raising, making a specialty of Holstein cattle and also raises an excellent grade of hogs. Mr. Burt enlisted in the late war at the age of seventeen, in Company K, First Ohio Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, after seventeen months being transferred to the Sixth United States Cavalry, in which he served for the remainder of his term of enlistment, after which he re-enlisted in the Ohio Cavalry for twelve months longer. The principle engagements in which he was interested are: Williamsburg, Va., Slatersville, Va., Mechanicsville, Hanover Court House, Va., Black Church, Va., Malvern Hill, Va., Paul's Church, Va., Sugar Loaf, Md., Charlestown, Va., Hillsboro, Va., Philomont, Va., Uniontown, Va., Upperville, Va., Barbour's Cross Roads, Amosville, Sulphur Springs, Fredericksburg, Stoneman's raid around Richmond, Beverly Ford, Middleburg, Upperville, Fairfield, Pa., Williamsport, Md., Funkstown, Md. (at this place the regiment was destroyed, but seventeen men being left), Boonesboro, Md., Antietam and Brandy Station, Md. Soon after his enlistment, in the early part of 1862, he was appointed corporal, and after a faithful service of three years he was honorably discharged at St. Louis, Mo., in 1865. February 13, 1868, witnessed his marriage

in Rock County, Wis., to Miss Ella M. Crosby, daughter of J. D. and Aurelia Crosby, born in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Burt were the parents of six children, four of whom, Willie, Ina, Lulu and Archie, are living. Mr. Burt is a member and junior vice commander of Post No. 243, G. A. R., Campbell, Neb., which post numbers thirty-three members, all in good standing. His parents were strict Methodists, and Mr. Burt received that religious training which has been a distinctive mark in the circle of family interests, and he and family attend worship and Sunday-school in the Congregational Church at Campbell. Since his residence in Nebraska, he has been offered the best offices in the township, but has invariably declined them all. He is now serving as school director, and takes special care in the selection of instructors for the schools under his charge. He is giving his children a good common school education, and will have them take advantage of a higher grade of education. Mr. Burt has ever identified himself with the Republican party, and has always been an active and enthusiastic supporter of Republican principles. He expects to make Nebraska his future home, and is happy and contented, surrounded by all the comforts of life and an interesting and happy family.

Leartus Campbell, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on Section 14, Batin Township, Webster County. Among the enterprising and prospering farmers and stock-raisers of Webster County, none are more worthy of mention than Leartus Campbell. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth, having first opened his eyes to the light of this world in Wayne County, that State, March 15, 1844. His father was born in New Jersey in 1806, and is now deceased. The mother was born in 1808 in Pennsylvania. They had a family of eight children—three boys and five girls, the subject of this sketch being the fifth in order of birth, as follows: Nancy Jane died in her twentieth year; Sarah was the wife of Buckley Bedient, a farmer, and died in Nebraska of typhoid fever in her forty-ninth year; Abbie died at the age of fourteen years; Anthony Wayne married Miss Jane Delworth, a native of New York, and is now living on a farm in Wayne

County, Pa.; Leartus Campbell was married in Pennsylvania, in 1866, to Miss Mary Munphy, a native of Leeds, Yorkshire, England, and this union has been blessed in the birth of six children—four girls and two boys, as follows: Emma, Lydia Ann, Mary Jane, Anthony John, William B. and Florence Isabella. Emma was born June 12, 1867, and received a liberal education, principally in the high school at Red Cloud, Neb., and also an excellent training at the Carbondale graded schools, at Carbondale, Pa. After completing her education she engaged in teaching, and had achieved quite a success in that calling, when she gave it up and married John Weatherwax, a farmer residing in Red Cloud Township, and she is now the mother of a bright little girl, May, who is two years of age. Lydia Ann was born June 13, 1869, also received a good education, and chose millinery and dress-making as her avocation. She is now residing on the old homestead with her parents. Mary Jane was born June 15, 1871. She, too, received a good common-school education, and being a very apt scholar made rapid advancement in her scholastic studies. She is now the wife of Frank Rickerson, a farmer of this county. Anthony John was born April 1, 1873, and like the other members of the family received a good common-school education. He, however, has aspirations for a higher education, which his parents will gratify. William was born February 3, 1878, and is now attending school in the home district. Florence Isabella was born December 15, 1884, and is a bright little girl of five years, with a decided talent for music. Mr. Campbell enlisted in Company I, Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Colored Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, under Gen. Paul Sickles. He afterward served under Gen. W. S. Hancock, who was greatly honored and revered by his soldiers. Mr. Campbell was actively engaged at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Locust Grove, Spottsylvania (a two-days hard fight), Cold Harbor, siege of Petersburg, battle of the Wilderness, Gainesville, Chapman's Farm, and about sixteen other engagements. He was in the nine-months siege at Petersburg, Va., and was in the severest battles of

the war, but came through uninjured, although he had many narrow escapes, at one time having his knapsack shot from his back, and has many times had bullet-holes through his blouse. After his discharge near Washington, D. C., June 25, 1865, Mr. Campbell returned to his home, where he remained for some time. In 1868 he moved his family to Carbondale, Pa., where he entered the employ of the Delaware & Hudson Coal Company, and was under the supervision of one master during the whole time of service. He left with gilt-edged recommendations in 1877 and came to Nebraska, homesteading 160 acres of wild land, which he has since made into a most comfortable home, on which he and his family now reside. He commenced farming operations on the lone prairie farm with an ox team and a very meager supply of farm implements, and during these hard times he was greatly encouraged and aided by his estimable wife. Mr. Campbell has identified himself with the Democratic party, and has always supported the sound principles of Democracy. He cast his first vote for Samuel J. Tilden, and has advocated the same Jeffersonian principles as his father before him. He has taken a very active part in township and county affairs, and has served as moderator of his district for six years, and during his incumbency of this office he has been an advocate of good and competent instructors at a reasonable salary. Both he and wife are devoted members of the Roman Catholic Church, and have had all their children confirmed. They attend exercises at Red Cloud. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have established themselves in a good comfortable home where, surrounded by an intelligent family, they expect to pass the remainder of their days.

Case & McNeny. The law firm of Case & McNeny has gained an enviable reputation in this section of Nebraska. Indeed, but few firms in the State are better or more widely known, and but few equal it in the scope of its business. O. C. Case, the senior member, was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1852, and received his literary education in his native State. He came west, and, after attending the Iowa State University, was graduated

in law in 1876. Subsequently he first located in Le Mars, Iowa, and upon practicing at that place until 1879, came thence to Nebraska, and chose a home in Red Cloud, where he was occupied alone in the prosecution of his professional duties until 1881. A partnership was then formed with James McNeny, which still exists, and is recognized as one of strength and ability. This firm has one of the finest law libraries in the State. Mr. Case belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and to the I. O. O. F. He is a Democrat in his political views, and, although this district is strongly Republican, he was elected to the State Senate in 1882, on the Democratic ticket. He is unmarried. His parents, Michael and Mary (Bills) Case, were natives of New England. James McNeny, the junior member of this representative firm, was born in York State in 1854, and graduated from the Toronto College, Canada. He read law under Samuel Hand, in New York, was admitted to the bar in this county in 1881, and at the same time formed a partnership with Mr. Case, with whom he has been practicing ever since. He was admitted to the supreme and federal courts in 1883, served as city attorney of Red Cloud for five years, and in 1888 was presidential elector for his district. He is acknowledged to be a young man of decided worth and influence among his professional colleagues.

George P. Cather is a farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 2-3-12, Catherton Township, Webster County, Neb. Among the substantial farmers of Webster County who are worthy of mention in this work, none are more so than Mr. Cather, who has been long and prominently identified with its history. He first opened his eyes to the light of this world in Frederick County, Va., in March, 1847, and was the eldest child born to William and Carolina Cather, *nee* Smith, both of whom were born in Virginia. His father was a farmer by occupation, and lived in his native State all his life, until 1878, when he came to Webster County. He died in Red Cloud in the fall of 1887. The mother is still living, and resides in Red Cloud. His parents were both members of the Baptist Church. The subject of this sketch was reared in his native State, receiving a good com-

mon-school education. Upon attaining his majority he started in life for himself. He first engaged as a teacher, for several terms; later, acted as deputy sheriff in Frederick County for about three years, after which he engaged in different pursuits until coming to this county, in the fall of 1873. Here he took up land under the pre-emption, homestead and timber-claim acts, in all aggregating 480 acres of good land, to which he has since added 480 acres more, making a farm of 960 acres of land, all improved and well stocked. Mr. Cather was the first actual settler in this township, and was influential in bringing people both from his native State and other Eastern States. He has also been identified with the political interests of his county. He is a staunch Republican, and is serving his fourth term as township supervisor. Prior to this he was twice elected assessor. The year 1873 witnessed his marriage to Miss Frank A. Smith, daughter of H. N. and Fannie (Cleverly) Smith, both natives of Vermont. Mrs. Cather was born in Boston, in August, 1846. She was a graduate from Mount Holyoke Female Seminary, and before her marriage was a prominent educator, of Virginia. By this union there are five children, viz.: Carrie, Blanche, G. P., Frank W. and Oscar E., the last two being twins. Mrs. Cather and the two eldest children belong to the Baptist Church.

Thomas P. Chambers, an old settler and esteemed and worthy citizen of Potsdam Township, Webster County, Neb., was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 7, 1846, being the son of Joseph and Nancy (Brown) Chambers, the former a native of Licking County, Ohio, born October 8, 1818, and the latter a native of Pennsylvania, born December 11, 1818. Our subject was the third in a family of nine children, of whom six were boys, and five of them—four sons and one daughter—are still living. The names of the nine children are as follows: Daniel (deceased), George W. (deceased), Thomas P., James H., Elizabeth (deceased), Simeon B., Mary Ann, Sarah (deceased) and Samuel J. The parents are now living in Elm Creek Township, Webster County. When the subject of this sketch was five years old his parents removed to the southern part of Wisconsin, residing there on

a farm for one year, when they moved to Ogle County, Ill., where our subject spent his boyhood, in winter attending the district school, and in summer laboring upon a farm. When he was seventeen years of age he accompanied his parents to Knox County, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his youth and the first years of his manhood engaged in tilling the soil. In the spring of 1873, together with his father, mother, three brothers and one sister, he came to Nebraska and located on a homestead, that had been filed by his father, in Section 8, Elm Creek Township, Webster County, upon which both the father and mother now reside. The same year the family came to Nebraska our subject and his brother, James H., homesteaded the west half of Section 32, in Potsdam Township, and both of them have since proved up their claims. Thomas P. has lived on his homestead, comprising 160 acres of good land, ever since, and it is now a handsome and well improved farm. In 1880 Mr. Chambers was united in marriage to Mrs. Ann Callahan, the widow of John J. Callahan, formerly of Iowa. Her maiden name was Ann McBeth, and she was born in Manitoba, in July, 1849. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chambers has resulted in the birth of three children, viz.: Ernest Joseph, Earl Thomas and Elizabeth, of whom the second died in his third year. By her first husband Mrs. Chambers had four children, as follows: Alexander, John, Mary, James, all of whom are living and make their home with Mr. Chambers. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Chambers is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in politics is a Prohibitionist. He has served two terms as constable, and he has been a member of the school board during almost his entire residence in Nebraska. He is an honest, upright, enterprising man, and he and wife are among the very best citizens of Webster County. He was formerly a Republican.

Hon. G. R. Chaney, of Red Cloud, Neb., the subject of this sketch, was born near Cambridge in the State of Ohio in 1844, and is the son of Finley and Jemima (Reed) Chaney. His father, Finley Chaney, was born near Baltimore, Md., and

was a relative of the famous John Chaney of Ohio, who died a few years ago at the age of ninety-two. Finley Chaney died when the subject of this sketch was only four years old, leaving a widow and three children, of whom G. R. Chaney is the eldest. His widow subsequently married, and when our subject was nine years old, he was thrown entirely upon his own resources. He worked upon a farm in the summer and attended a country district school in the winter, so that his educational advantages were quite limited, and he had but little education when he enlisted in the Federal army at the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. He served as a private soldier three years and thirteen days, when he was mustered out of the service. On his return home he attended school for several years, and studied law in the office of Hon. J. R. Bobo, at Decatur, Ind., and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1870. In 1872 he opened an office in Plymouth, Ind., where he practiced with the usual success until 1880, when he moved west. In 1883 he located at Red Cloud, where he has since resided. He is the author of several law books, all of which have been well received by the profession—first, *Index-Digest of Kansas Reports*, compiled in 1882, and published by E. B. Meyers & Co., of Chicago; a *Digest of Nebraska Reports*, completed in 1886, and published by Mills Publishing Co., Des Moines, Iowa; *Nebraska Citations*, which he completed in 1888, but he was unfortunate enough to have the plates for this work, together with 350 volumes of the book, destroyed in the fire which consumed the Gazette-Journal office at Hastings, Neb., in 1889. He is at present engaged in revising his *Nebraska Digest*. Mr. Chaney has had a good law business since coming to Red Cloud, and is a scrupulous observer of professional etiquette. He is a Mason and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is well and favorably known throughout the State, both as a lawyer and a man.

A. W. Choat, farmer and stock-raiser, Oak Creek Township, Webster County, Neb., resides on the southeast quarter of Section 14, Town 4, Range 9. Prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Webster County is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Born in Pickaway County,

Ohio, near Columbus, in 1838, he is the fifth of ten children born to Mites P. and Jane (Jordan) Choat. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1804, but in early youth moved to Ohio, and was there married in 1830 to Miss Jane Jordan, who was also born in Pennsylvania, but moved with her parents to Ohio when she was a child. To their married life were born the following children: Mary A., James, Margaret, Hiram, Alphens, Minerva, Louis, John, Melville and Francis, all of whom are now living with the exception of John, who died in the late war. His father was a farmer all his life, and as such was very successful. In 1843 he moved to Indiana, thence to Iowa, locating in Deerfield Township, Chickasaw County. Here Mrs. Choat died August 28, 1888, and was followed by her husband one year later. Mr. Choat was prominently identified with the affairs of his community, and in the year 1862-63 served as supervisor of his township. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, and helped organize the lodge at Bradford. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his school days in Indiana and Iowa. In 1859 he was seized with the gold fever and started overland across the plains to California, driving an ox-team, and arrived there without experiencing any serious delays. Here he remained for ten years, following mining with varying success. In 1869 he returned to Iowa and engaged in cultivating the soil, and in 1871 followed the tide of immigration to Webster County, locating 160 acres of government land, on which he now lives. In 1873 Miss Sarah Stevenson, daughter of Franklin Stevenson, of Clay County, Neb., became his wife, and to them have been given five children, viz.: Ray B. (born December 25, 1874), Melvin (born July 17, 1876), Ross (born July 9, 1878, and died July 23, 1879), Chester (born April 5, 1880) and Julie J. (born January 22, 1883). Mr. Choat came to this county when it was thinly settled, and has seen its entire growth and improvement. He has been very successful since casting his lot in Nebraska, which is mainly due to honest hard work and good business ability. He takes a deep interest in educational and religious matters, as well as in all things tending to the improvement of the country. Mr. Choat

votes the Republican ticket, and takes a prominent part in political affairs. In secret societies he belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Farmers' Alliance. He is at present serving on the school board in District No. 53. In connection with his farm and stock interests, Mr. Choat has a fine young orchard and nice grove, in which he takes great and just pride.

E. K. Conrad, farmer and stock-raiser, Blue Hill, Neb. Mr. Conrad was born in Maryland in 1842 and was the second in a family of nine children, six now living, born to Isaac and Elizabeth (Ethel) Conrad, natives, also, of Maryland. The father was a mechanic and remained in his native State until 1850, when he moved to Peoria County, Ill., and engaged in farming. There the mother died in March, 1863, but the father is still living and makes his home in Nebraska. Their children were named as follows: Oliver (came to Webster County, Neb., in 1881, and now resides at Bladen), Susan (now Mrs. Watson, of Peoria County, Ill.), George (married, and came to Webster County in 1886), William (married and resides in Canton, Ill.), and Elizabeth (now Mrs. McCarthy, of Farmington, Fulton County, Ill.). E. K. Conrad was reared to the arduous duties of the farm, educated in the schools of Pennsylvania and Illinois, and in 1862 enlisted in Peoria County, Ill., in the Eighty-sixth Illinois Infantry, Company D, for three years. He was in the Army of the Cumberland, was in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Kenesaw, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He was at Atlanta, Bentonville, and was in the Carolina campaign, being honorably discharged at Camp Fry, Chicago, on June 27, 1865, after which he returned to Peoria County, Ill., and engaged in cultivating the soil. He was married in the last-named county in October, 1865, to Miss Sarah M. Green, a native of Peoria County, Ill., and the daughter of Silas and Sarah (Wedman) Green, natives of the Old Dominion. Mr. and Mrs. Green emigrated at an early day to Peoria County, Ill., and there they both passed the remainder of their days, the father's death occurring in 1862 and the mother's on March 1, 1890. E. K. Conrad tilled the soil

in Peoria County for two years, and in 1868 moved to Livingston County, where he continued his former occupation for six years. In 1874 he moved to Washington County, Iowa, and in 1876 to Webster County, Neb., where he put up a dug-out and resided in it for six years. He opened up land and is now the owner of 160 acres, all in a good state of cultivation. He takes considerable interest in politics and votes with the Republican party, is a member of the Alliance and of the G. A. R. He and Mrs. Conrad are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are the parents of these children: Mina (now Mrs. Beal), W. E., Nancy L., William, Frank, Ruby, Lewis and Guy.

Oliver Eugene Conrad, a farmer and stock-raiser residing on Section 27, Glenwood Township, Webster County, was born January 30, 1845, in Washington County, Md., the fourth of a family of eleven children, viz.: Elias (who was a farmer and stock-raiser, and died in McCook, Neb., in 1888), Ezra (a farmer and stock-raiser, lives in Batin Township, Webster County), Susan (now Mrs. Simeon Watson, lives in Peoria County, Ill., where her husband works at his trade—that of a cabinet-maker), Oliver (our subject, next in family chronology), William (is a farmer and stock-raiser of Canton, Ill.), George (is married and resides in Webster County, Neb., where he is very successfully engaged in farming), Emma (died in her ninth year), Mary (married R. Downing, a farmer, and resides in Washington County, Iowa), Elizabeth (was born in Illinois, and now lives at Farmington, Ill., where her husband is a very successful butcher), and Jacob Calvin and James Elsworth (both dead, the former dying in his sixth year, and the latter at the age of four years). The mother was born in Maryland, of Welsh descent, and died in Peoria County, Ill., in 1863. The father was born in Pennsylvania in 1814, and now makes his home with our subject. He is now seventy-five years of age and enjoys very good health. Oliver Conrad obtained a good education in the common schools of Illinois, whither his parents had moved when he was quite young, and this education admirably fitted him for the practical duties

of life. He has been twice married: First, on March 4, 1870, to Miss Sarah A. Babbitt, a native of Illinois, who bore him three children, the eldest of whom, Charles Albert, died in 1888, in his seventeenth year, of consumption (he was born in Livingston County, Ill., and received a liberal education in the common schools of Nebraska and Iowa); Silas Harry (born March 31, 1873) is farming in Potawatamie County, Iowa, and Emma Belle (who was born August 26, 1876, in Mills County, Iowa), is now attending school. Mr. Conrad's second marriage occurred September 7, 1884, Miss Martha Jane Thomas, a native of Indiana, born in Mount Vernon, December 9, 1862, being the interested party, and this marriage has resulted in the birth of two children, namely: Isaac Raymond (a bright little boy of four summers) and Frank Leslie (now in his first year). Mr. Conrad served his country during the late war, enlisting in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers. He was mustered into service at Peoria, Ill., in 1864, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. In the spring of 1865 he re-enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Fifty first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was transported to Columbus, Ga., being assigned to duty under Gen. Judy. After his first enlistment his regiment was ordered to St. Louis, thence to Franklin Station to intercept Gen. Price. During the first enlistment he was taken ill with intermittent fever and was sent to the hospital at Cairo, where he remained three weeks before ready for duty, and was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., in the spring of 1866. In 1882 Mr. Conrad immigrated from Mills County, Iowa, to Nebraska, locating in Glenwood Township, Webster County, where he purchased 160 acres of land, 115 acres of which were under cultivation. Here he has resided ever since, and has watched the steady and rapid growth of the country up to the present time. At the time of his settlement here, Blue Hill, then a village of 300 inhabitants, was the nearest market. Mr. Conrad has always identified himself with the Democratic party, and cast his first vote for Seymour and Blair. During the past two or three years he has taken considerable interest in the

municipal affairs of his township and county, but, although he has been tendered several offices of trust and honor, he has declined in each case. He is a member and an ardent supporter of the Farmers' Alliance, and is firm in his belief that this society will be the strongest promoter of farmers' interests of any society organized by the farmers of Nebraska. He and wife expect to spend the remainder of their lives in this State.

Clark C. Coon, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. Among those who have become intimately associated with the farming and stock raising interests of Webster County, we cannot fail to mention Mr. Clark C. Coon, who was early taught the duties of farm life. He was born in Dryden, Tompkins County, N. Y., on the 10th of April, 1815, and is the son of John and Susanah (Babcock) Coon, natives also of the Empire State. He assisted his father on the farm until in his twenty-eighth year, and then went to Rock County, Wis., where he remained for twenty-four years engaged in agricultural pursuits. From there he went to Montgomery County, Iowa, where he remained four years and then moved to Nebraska, locating on his fine farm of 160 acres in November, 1871, and bringing his family here the following year. His trading point at this time was Beatrice, which was 120 miles distant. He brought his family in a wagon, and the first four months of their residence here were spent in a covered wagon. Buffalo and other game were very plentiful at that time, and Mr. Coon and his family endured the many hardships of early settlers. Mr. Coon was married in 1841 to Miss Sarah C. Gifford, who died in the spring of 1843. June 16, 1846, Mr. Coon married Miss Nancy P. Andrus, daughter of Henry and Nancy (Conant) Andrus, and a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio, born November 22, 1819. The result of this union was the birth of four children: Mariah J., born May 22, 1847 (deceased); Sarah (deceased), born May 2, 1850; John A. and George E. (twins), born March 20, 1853 [see sketch]. Mr. Coon is now the owner of one of the finest farms in the county, and is an honest, upright citizen. He has always voted the Republican ticket until late years, and is now a declared anti-monopolist.

He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is a member of the Old Settlers' Association, composed of families that came here before 1874. Himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are much esteemed citizens of the community. They are very comfortably fixed, indeed, and can spend their declining years in peace and plenty.

John A. Coon, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. The name which the subject of this sketch bears, has already been given considerable prominence in this work, not, however, without justice, as all will acknowledge, for the Coon family have been identified with the interests of the county since its organization, and are among its most prominent and enterprising citizens. John A. Coon was born in Rock County, Wis., on March 20, 1853, and is the son of Clark C. and Permilia (Andrus) Coon, whose sketch immediately precedes this. Our subject remained in his native State until 1867, and then moved to Iowa with his parents. In 1872 they emigrated to Nebraska, settling in Webster County, and there they have since made their home. John A. received a good practical education in his native county and followed the precept and example of his father by becoming an agriculturist. He homesteaded 160 acres in 1873, and this he has improved in every way. He has a new two-story house, also good barns, sheds and out-buildings, and is a man to make his mark as an agriculturist, being thorough and progressive in his ideas. He was married, October 8, 1879, to Miss May I. Armstrong, a native of Illinois, born October 8, 1862, and the daughter of Alex. and Mary (Ellis) Armstrong, natives of Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Coon have been born two children: Gertie and Georgia Etta. Mr. Coon has an excellent farm, and is a representative citizen, being recognized as one of the leading spirits in matters of interest. He is a Republican in politics, but like his father, favors the anti-monopolist measure, also the Farmers' Alliance movement. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Ash Creek, and he is one of the trustees and the steward. Mrs. Coon removed to this county with her father November 10, 1872.

George E. Coon, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. This esteemed and enterprising agriculturist was born March 20, 1853, in Rock County, Wis., and is the son of Clark C. and Permelia (Andrus) Coon [see sketch of father]. George E. Coon remained in his native State until in his fourteenth year, when he moved with his parents to Iowa, and there remained four years. In 1872 he emigrated to Nebraska, and here he has since made his home (except during the time of residence in Kansas and Colorado), following farming, which occupation he had been taught in early youth. He was given a good common-school education, and this he has improved very materially by reading and observation. In 1874 he took a homestead of 160 acres in Smith County, Kas., and this he still owns. He made final proof on his homestead in 1880, then went to Colorado, engaged in freighting and ranching, and remained until the fall of 1882, when he returned to Nebraska. The farm is in good condition and all under cultivation. In the fall of 1882 Mr. Coon purchased his home place of 160 acres, which he has improved with a good stone house, substantial barns, sheds and granaries. He has also a nice young orchard. He is one of the few who braved the hardships and varied experiences of the early settlers, and has since been a witness of the rapid growth and improvement of the country. Wild animals were plentiful at that time, and Red Cloud was a small station for five or six houses. Mr. Coon is enterprising and energetic and one of the best citizens of the county. He was married on May 18, 1876, to Miss Dora A. Brewer, a native of Illinois, born May 12, 1859, and the daughter of William W. and Mary I. (Armstrong) Brewer, natives also of Illinois. Mr. Coon had the misfortune to lose his kind and faithful helpmate September 16, 1877, and has remained a widower ever since. She was a good woman in the fullest sense of the word, and her husband cherishes and reveres her memory. Mr. Coon has been a life-long Republican, but favors the anti-monopolist movement. In 1884 he was elected township assessor, was re-elected in 1886, and in 1887 was elected supervisor of his township, which position he has held for

three terms, being re-elected in 1889, for a term of two years. He also favors the Farmers' Alliance movement, and is always interested in all enterprises for the good of the county.

Isaac Cowley, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 6, Batin Township, Webster County, is a Manx by birth, being born on the Isle of Man, near the city of Douglas, in December, 1834. He was the fourth of a family of five children—four boys and one girl—and is the only one now living. The oldest, William, died about 1857; John and Thomas did not long survive, and their mother died in 1872. Mr. Cowley's parents were both natives of the Isle of Man. When our subject was twenty-three years of age, he decided to seek his fortunes in the new world. Accordingly in 1857 he left his native land and sailed for America, landing in New York, but coming west as far as Lake County, Ill., where he settled on a farm about forty-five miles from Chicago. After living there three years, he went to Coles County, Ill. Here he remained until 1873, when he came to Nebraska by wagon and homesteaded 160 acres, to which he has since added another 160, making a good farm, all of which is of a superior quality, and well stocked with cattle and hogs. He has a good comfortable house, barns, out-buildings, etc. When he came here there was not a vestige of improvement to be seen, and his nearest market was Hastings, a distance of about thirty-eight miles; now he has excellent markets at Bladen, and Red Cloud, the county seat, fifteen miles distant. Mr. and Mrs. Cowley, *nee* Nancy Jane Carr, born in Shelby County, Ill., in 1848, have one child, a boy, Charles Wesley, who was born in 1876, and resides on the old homestead; and will undoubtedly make farming his pursuit in life. Mr. Cowley has always identified himself with the Republican party, and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, though he doesn't take a very active interest in local politics, except to exercise his franchise. He served as postmaster of Catherton, Neb., for eleven years. Mrs. Cowley is a member of the Christian Church. Although Mr. Cowley never had the advantage of a common-school education, he strongly advocates the practical education of to-day.

Alexander H. Crary, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. This representative, substantial citizen of Webster County owes his nativity to Connecticut, where he was born, in New London County, October 29, 1841, one of a family of children, nine of whom grew to maturity, and five of whom—three boys and two girls—are still living, born to the union of Capt. Elisha A. and Eliza (Brewster) Crary, both born, reared and married in Connecticut, the former of English descent. Mrs. Crary's ancestors came over to America in the "Mayflower." Capt. E. A. Crary was a farmer and resided in his native State all his life, being the only one of five sons to remain at home, the others all going west. He was captain of militia in New London County, and filled many local offices of trust and honor. He died about the year 1854, his widow surviving until June of 1867, when she too passed from this earth. Alexander H. Crary grew to maturity in the State of his nativity, receiving a good common-school education, and remained with his parents until he had reached his twenty second year, when in the spring of 1865 he came west to Iowa, locating in Clayton County with his uncle, Judge O. W. Crary, with whom he remained two years. In the spring of 1867 he came to Grundy County, where his brother, Capt. E. A. Crary resided, and remained there until the fall of 1871, at that time coming to Webster County, Neb., bringing with him a team and cattle, and arriving here in October of the same year. He first homesteaded 160 acres, on which he now lives, and immediately commenced improving it. He has since purchased more land at different times, and now owns 1,200 acres in five tracts, all fine tillable land, a good share of which is fenced, and about 500 acres under the plow. His place is located just one mile from Guide Rock, and on it he has erected a good large residence, big barns, sheds, cribs, etc., and with a wind pump, stock scales, and a stream of living water running through his farm, he is afforded unusual facilities for feeding and caring for stock. He is one of the largest land owners in the south part of the county, and his property has all been acquired by good business tact and ability. Since his location here,

Mr. Crary has been extensively engaged in feeding stock for the market each year, feeding on an average of from one to six car loads of cattle, and two of hogs annually. In politics, Mr. Crary is Republican, and has held the office of supervisor for three consecutive years, and has also been a member of the school board, and at the present time is district treasurer. In Marshall County, Iowa, on October 14, 1869, the ceremony which made Mr. Crary and Miss Fannie T. Jewell husband and wife was performed, and this union has been blessed in the birth of six children: John H., Mary E., Lucy E., William A., Robert J. and Edward R. Robert J. died at the age of sixteen months. Mrs. Crary was a daughter of Alexander Jewell, and was born in Pennsylvania, partly reared in Ohio, and grew to maturity and was educated in Iowa.

John Crowell, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. The subject of this sketch was born in Steuben County, N. Y., August 28, 1816, a son of Theodore and Anna (Cummings) Crowell, both natives of the "Empire State." His father was a farmer by occupation, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Steuben County until 1859, at that time coming to Michigan, locating in Branch County, where he resumed his farming operations until his death, in 1864. His death was preceded by that of his wife, who died several years previous to his removal to Michigan. Mr. Crowell served as magistrate of Steuben County for a number of years, and was highly respected by all who knew him. John Crowell grew to manhood in his native State. About 1842 he left New York and located in Van Buren County, Mich., which was then a wilderness, inhabited chiefly by Indians, Mr. Crowell being one of the first white settlers in that county. He cleared a good farm, and resided there for about nine years, then sold out and returned to Steuben County, N. Y., remaining there for two years, and then, in 1854, moving to Ogle County, Ill., where he cultivated a farm for about two years. In 1856 he moved to Black Hawk County, Iowa, and farmed there until 1876, when he sold out and came to Nebraska, purchased a claim and homesteaded, and has since cultivated this land. He has 160 acres all

fenced and cross fenced into convenient fields, with a nice grove of native trees and a good bearing orchard. He has a substantial residence, the upper part being frame and the lower part stone, with a basement kitchen, good barns, etc. This is the fifth farm Mr. Crowell has made in as many States; it is located within three miles of Guide Rock, and is a very valuable place. Mr. Crowell votes the Republican ticket, is well posted on the political issues of the day, and takes an active part in the political affairs of his county, but does not aspire to office. Mr. Crowell has been thrice married; first, in Steuben County, N. Y., December 1, 1840, to Miss Alena Hammer, a native of the same State and county, who died November 30, 1851, leaving five children, but one of whom survives, Anna (wife of Dr. J. L. Patton, of this county). Of those dead, two died in early childhood, and the other two when about grown. Mr. Crowell's second marriage took place in Steuben County, N. Y., April 15, 1853, to Rhoda Minor, also born in Steuben County, who died July 31, 1860, after bearing him three children, but two of whom are now living, viz.: Martha (wife of A. Beals, of Superior), Emma J. (wife of Thomas Morgan, of Denver) and Sylvania Ann (deceased, was the wife of E. P. Sinclair, of Waterloo, Iowa). Mr. Crowell went back to Steuben County for his present wife, whom he married there March 16, 1861, and together they returned to their Nebraska home, where they have since been very fortunate, financially as well as otherwise, both having been blessed with good health most of the time. Mrs. Crowell was formerly Catherine Roberts, a daughter of Ichabod Roberts, and was born in Steuben County.

Henry C. Cutter is successfully engaged in buying and selling grain, stock and machinery at Cowles, Neb., and although his birth occurred in Rock County, Wis., in 1852, he has been a resident of the above-mentioned place since December, 1885. He grew to manhood in his native State, and at an early day began the battle of life for himself as a general trader and stock-raiser in the place of his birth, continuing until his removal to the State of Nebraska. Upon his arrival here he purchased the D. B. Busick elevator, and began

immediately to deal in grain and purchase stock, and is now one of the most extensive shippers from Cowles. Since his arrival in this county he has been remarkably successful, and from time to time he has purchased land and has at the present time 1,000 acres of land in Elm Creek Township, all of which is well improved, fenced and stocked with cattle, hogs and horses. His first purchase of cattle in this section of the country consisted of 400 head, some of which were full blooded Short Horns, and a number of his hogs were also thoroughbred. He is one of four surviving members of a family of five children born to Charles and Harriet (Locke) Cutter, natives of New York State, who were early emigrants to Wisconsin, in which State their children are living, with the exception of the subject of this sketch. He is a wide-awake young business man, and gives every promise of becoming one of the wealthy citizens of this section of the State.

Charles E. Davis, a young though prominent member of the Webster County bar, was born at Houston, Texas, April 13, 1861. His early days were spent on a farm, in whose drudgery he could find none of the fanciful calculated to cause him to select this industry as a vocation. Mr. Davis received his collegiate education at Shurtleff College, at Upper Alton, Ill., after which he located at Red Cloud, Neb., and traveled for the Phenix Insurance Company as an assistant adjuster of farm losses. Mr. Davis, while thus engaged, studied law with Mr. Chaney until 1884, when he entered the law department of the Washington University, at St. Louis, from which he was graduated in 1885, and was admitted to practice in the court of appeals at St. Louis. Mr. Davis until lately has been located at Superior, Neb., where he had a lucrative practice; he was for two years city attorney, and attorney for the Missouri Pacific and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railways. He has recently located in Red Cloud, and is the junior member of the firm of Chaney & Davis. Mr. Davis is a man of decided literary tastes, a close student and an almost faultless advocate. In 1886 he was married to Miss Ella A. Putnam, of Red Cloud, a lady of education and accomplishment.

M. W. Dickerson was born in McHenry County, Ill., in 1845, being a son of John and Elizabeth (Duffield) Dickerson, both now deceased. Our subject grew to manhood and was educated in the place of his birth, and after reaching years of discretion, learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he afterward worked. He was married in 1864 to Miss Nancy M. Miller, and this union has resulted in the birth of three children, viz.: Sarah E., John and Charles. In 1869 Mr. Dickerson moved from Illinois to Taylor County, Iowa, and there made his home for seven years, at the end of that time going to Phillips County, Kas., where he remained until 1880, when he came to Red Cloud and engaged in business, dealing in flour, feed, butter and eggs, at which he has successfully continued ever since. In his political views Mr. Dickerson affiliates with the Republican party, and always supports the men and measures of that party. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A.

Amos Dillin, farmer and stock-raiser, Beaver Creek Township, Webster County, Neb. Among the enterprising and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of Webster County, none are more worthy of mention than Amos Dillin. He is the son of Israel and Elizabeth Jane (Fitch) Dillin, the former of whom was born, reared and married in Ohio. Elizabeth Jane (Fitch) Dillin was the daughter of William and Mary Fitch, her father being one of the early settlers of Ohio, and she was born in Virginia and reared and educated in Ohio. The father was a farmer and mechanic by occupation, and in connection with these pursuits, he was also a local minister in the Christian Union Church, preaching occasionally, and was a very zealous church worker. He also took an active interest in politics, and filled many local offices. He served as a member of the school board, and as county clerk for two terms, and held the office of justice of the peace for eighteen years continuously. He died January 22, 1888, his wife having previously died March 7, 1870. Great-grandfather Dillin was born in Scotland, emigrated to the United States and served in the Revolutionary War. Amos Dillin was born in Coshocton County, Ohio,

on August 26, 1841, the eldest of a family of eleven children—six sons and five daughters—all of whom grew to maturity, and ten of whom are still living. He grew to manhood in his native county, remaining at home until he reached his majority, when he married and located on an adjoining farm, and tilled the soil there for a number of years. Next we find him in the mercantile business, selling goods at East Union. Mr. Dillin is a Democrat in politics and served in nearly every local office in his township in Ohio, holding the offices of treasurer, trustee, clerk of school board, and various other offices, besides acting as delegate to numerous county and State conventions. In 1884 he sold out his mercantile interests, and on April 10 of the same year came to Nebraska and purchased and located one mile from Guide Rock, and immediately commenced the improvement of his place. He now has 106 acres of his farm of 160 acres well under cultivation, has neat and substantial buildings, a fine young orchard and grove, etc. Although this township is strongly Republican, Mr. Dillin was elected assessor in the fall of 1889, by a nice majority, which is one proof of his popularity as a citizen. He has also served on his school board. He was married March 9, 1865, in Coshocton County, Miss Susanna Casteel, a native of Coshocton County, and daughter of the late Thomas Casteel and wife, becoming Mrs. Dillin. Her father was a soldier in the War of 1812; her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Dillin are the parents of nine children, viz.: Sarah E. (wife of Martin Konzack, of Nuckolls County), Israel T. (married), William J. (a young man living at Deuver), Howard T., Ettie J., Rachel A., Bertha L., John C. and Amos M. Mr. Dillin is a Master Mason, and belongs to the Alliance.

William O. Dimmick is a well-known implement dealer and loan agent of Blue Hill, Neb., and was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., August 23, 1852, being a son of Lot L. and Mary A. (Mann) Dimmick, the former a native of Knox County, Ohio, born October 27, 1807, and the latter born in Cayuga County, N. Y., June 20, 1809. They were married in Galena, Ill., April 10, 1831, and had a family of eleven children, of whom six were

sons, the subject of this sketch being the youngest of the family, two sons and three daughters now living. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died September 3, 1863, followed by his wife February 3, 1877, both deaths occurring in Jo Daviess County, Ill. William O. Dimmick was reared to a farm life, and received his schooling during the winter months. During the winter of 1870-71 he attended the Wisconsin State Normal School at Plattville, Wis., but upon leaving this institution he continued to till the soil until his removal from Jo Daviess County, cultivating from 200 to 500 acres of land. He was married in Lafayette County, Wis., October 20, 1874, to Miss Esther Stone, a daughter of Franklin and Martha J. Stone, both of whom were born in Canada. Her birth occurred in Lafayette County, Wis., on September 8, 1854. In October, 1885, Mr. Dimmick removed from Jo Daviess County, Ill., to Nebraska, and first located at Hastings, where for a year and a half he dealt in grain and did a loan business, but in the spring of 1887 he removed to Blue Hill, where he has ever since been engaged in the implement and loan business. He has been quite successful, and is now one of the leading implement dealers and loan agents in this section of the State. He also manages a farm of 160 acres, which he owns in Adams County. Mr. Dimmick is a Republican, and has shown that he is socially inclined by becoming a member of the Masonic fraternity. He belongs to the A. M. Walters Investment Company, and is at all times an active and upright citizen. To himself and wife a family of five children have been born: Frank Leonard (born September 12, 1875, and died September 2, 1876), Oscar Leroy (born June 17, 1877), Lucile E. (born April 8, 1879), Clara (born March 19, 1881), and Hellen (born March 27, 1884, died June 13, 1884).

Edward S. Doyle, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 21, Harmony Township, Webster County, was born in New York, in 1826, and resided in that State until he had attained his twenty-first year. At the age of twenty-four years he went to California, and engaged in the lumber business at San Francisco, when that city had about 500 inhabitants, continuing there for three years. Returning to New

York, he remained for two years, at the end of that time going to Wisconsin, where he resided until 1870, the time of moving to Nebraska. His parents were both born in New York, and are now deceased. Our subject was born March 2, 1826, and was the eldest of eight children, the others being Robert (a farmer living in Kingston, N. Y.), Augustus (also engaged in farming, and living in Connecticut), Frank (was a physician, and died in his fortieth year), Peter William (was an official and collector of funds of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and died in his thirty-seventh year), James (died when he was seventeen years of age), Sarah (is now Mrs. Sea, and lives in New York), and Libbie (married Izab Vleee). Edward S. was reared on his father's farm, and receive a good education in the old subscription schools of New York. In 1870 he came to Nebraska, and entered 160 acres under the homestead law, of virgin prairie land. At that time wild buffalo roamed over his land in great droves, and Indians were plentiful, and Mr. Doyle relates in an interesting way how he was surprised one day while engaged in his farm work by hearing a noise and rumble and roar, and upon looking up, his eyes beheld nothing but Indians, horses and buffalo for as far as he could see about him. Mr. Doyle also experienced the terrible Easter storm, which lasted three days, commencing with a rain on the 14th of April, then turning into snow, and developing into one of the most terrific snow storms ever endured. The year 1856 witnessed his marriage in Wisconsin, to Miss Lydia E. Crosby, also a native of New York, and this union has been blessed in the birth of five children—three girls and two boys, viz.: Elizabeth (deceased) was the wife of Cassius Budlong, a farmer by occupation, who now has the postoffice and a store; Miner married Miss Lottie Gibson, and has one little daughter (he was formerly a merchant, but is now engaged in the insurance business); Lillian (deceased) was married to Simeon Hall, by whom she had one child, a little daughter, Mina, now nine years of age, who makes her home with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle; Edward A. resides on the old homestead, and divides his time between attending school and farming; and Lottie, now six years of age. When

a young man Mr. Doyle cast his first vote for Franklin Pierce, and has ever since been identified with the Republican party, being an ardent supporter of the same. He has always taken a decided interest in the municipal affairs of county and township, and has held several positions on the town board. He has been tendered the best offices in the township, but has modestly declined in each case. When Mr. Doyle first came to Harmony Township, his nearest market was Beatrice, a distance of 130 miles, and Hastings, Blue Hill, and in fact all of the flourishing towns of the present were unknown at that time. Prairie chickens were as plenty as tame chickens, and many times Mr. Doyle has raised the window and shot them. There was then only one small building in Juniata, and there was nothing on the prairie to obscure the view as far as the eye could reach, and Mr. Doyle relates much information of the terrible hardships and privations of the pioneer during the grass-hopper scourges of 1874 and 1876, when all the crops were totally destroyed. Mr. Doyle has been reasonably successful since his career here, and he and wife expect to spend the rest of their days in Nebraska. They would not exchange the lovely climate of this State for any Eastern climate they have lived in heretofore. They have a nice, well-improved farm, and are surrounded by a host of friends who hold them in high esteem. Both Mr. and Mrs. Doyle are members of the Congregational Church at Campbell, Neb. They were actively interested in the Sunday-school in the home district, Mrs. Doyle having excellently filled the position of secretary and treasurer of the same. When in session the school averages from twenty to thirty in constant attendance. Mr. Doyle belonged to the I. O. O. F. while in New York. He is now a member of the Alliance, and thinks it will greatly benefit the farmers if they hold together.

J. J. Ducker is a name well known in business circles throughout Webster County, for it stands as the representative of a man who is noted for his enterprise. He was born in Illinois in 1868, a son of James and Jennett (Allison) Ducker, the former a native of England and the mother of Scotland, both of whom came here while very young. They

were married in Chicago. The father was a merchant, and at an early day settled in Mokena, Ill., where he did a good general merchandise business. In 1874 he opened a dry goods and carpet store, one of the largest in the State of Illinois, at Joliet, and continued both this and the store at Mokena until his death, December 16, 1885, in his sixty-fifth year. After his death the business was continued by his sons, who are still interested in it, the stores being under the immediate control of our subject's brother. On account of ill health J. J. Ducker first came to Nebraska and settled on a ranch in this county, but after his short residence on the prairies his health improved so rapidly that he was soon able to resume business; accordingly, he entered the mercantile business at Red Cloud, buying out his brother, who had opened a store in that place. At first he was in partnership with his sister, but he soon purchased her interest, and has since run it alone. He does a large and paying business, employing from three to four clerks, and keeps a special line of dry goods and cloaks. Mr. Ducker is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is as yet unmarried. He is very fond of hunting, and keeps some of the best blooded dogs in the country, and indulges in the sport quite freely. He is a popular man among his associates, and is a man of good business ability.

John Dunbar, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. Although an Obioan by birth, Mr. Dunbar knows very little about his native State, as his parents, H. R. and Jewima (Wolf) Dunbar, removed to Illinois in 1834, while he was an infant. His father was a farmer by occupation, and followed this occupation until 1850, when he went to the gold fields of California, taking his son John with him. The former stayed in California two years, accumulating quite a fortune, and on his return home invested his wealth in lands and money-lending until his death, in 1886. John Dunbar remained in California two years longer, and on returning to Illinois invested in a farm, and continued as a farmer until 1865. Our subject, then in the prime of life, enlisted in the Forty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served "Uncle Sam" loyally and well until he was honorably dis-

charged, in 1866. At the close of the war he returned to Putnam County, Ill., and resumed his former occupation until 1872, at that time coming to Nebraska. Arriving in Webster County in June of the same year, he purchased a tract of 160 acres of ex-Governor Garber, and now owns 240 acres of land located on the Republican River, eighty acres being rich bottom land; 120 acres are under an excellent state of cultivation, on which he has never failed to raise a crop; upon it also is a thrifty-bearing orchard, thirteen years old, all selected fruits, besides considerable small fruit, with a good stone house, built in 1872, of the magnesia lime rock, in dimensions 18x34; he has a basement for a barn of the same material, and other improvements. September 4, 1855. Mr. Dunbar was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Bear, daughter of David Bear, a native of Pennsylvania, but reared and educated in Putnam County, Ill. Nine children have contributed to the happiness of this union, their names being Dora D., Sylvanion C., Matilda J., Laura A., Alice, Jewima, Jesse L., Orange and Mabel. Dora married Emanuel Peters, the first settler of Webster County, and its first sheriff; they now live in California. Sylvanion married Miss Stoner; they reside in Webster County. Matilda married Frank Cooper, a thriving farmer and school teacher, residing in this county. Laura A. married Christopher Columbia, residing in the northwest corner of this State. Alice married Floid Crow, residing in this county, a prosperous farmer. Mima married George Crow, a farmer by occupation. Jesse and Orange, two stout and handsome young men, take charge of the farm and stock, as Mr. Dunbar is a pensioner and not able to work. The youngest, Mabel, is a bright little miss of ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Dunbar is chaplain of the G. A. R., also an honorary member of the W. R. C., Mrs. Dunbar being the chaplain of the latter organization.

Chris. Fassler. The subject of this sketch has been so prominently identified with the interests of Webster County as to render him well and favorably known, while his official career has demonstrated him to be one of the most capable and

efficient of public servants, whose integrity and honesty of purpose are unquestioned. Mr. Fassler was born in Ohio, Fairfield County, in 1848, and is the fifth of nine children born to Christian and Christina (Siebler) Fassler. His parents were born in Germany, and gave their son a German education, as well as a good English schooling. Our subject grew to manhood on his father's farm in Ohio, subsequently marrying, in 1869, at the age of twenty-one, Miss Louisa Casteel, also a native of Ohio. After a brief married life of one year, Mrs. Fassler died. In 1877 Mr. Fassler came West to Illinois, remaining there until the fall of 1879, and then coming to Webster County, Neb. Here he purchased railroad land and settled down to farming, until he was elected county treasurer, since which period he has devoted such time as he could spare from the efficient discharge of his duties to his agricultural interests. He has always taken a deep interest in public affairs, and is very popular in his county. As a proof of his popularity we will mention the fact, that although his county has a Republican majority of several hundred votes, Mr. Fassler was elected to his present office on the Democratic ticket. He had previously served several terms as a member of the board of county supervisors. He was installed in his present position January 9, 1890. He is now the owner of a half section of land in this county. Mr. Fassler served his country in the late war, enlisting before he was fifteen years of age, and continuing in action until the close of the war. He now belongs to the G. A. R.

Philip G. Fassler, farmer and stock-raiser, Bladen, Neb. Mr. Fassler owes his nativity to Fairfield County, Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1855, and is the youngest of five children, the result of the union of Christian and Christina (Siebler) Fassler, natives of Baden, Germany, who came to this country at an early day. The parents settled in Maryland, and later moved to the Buckeye State, where the father died in 1864, and the mother in 1877. Philip G. Fassler received his education in the schools of Ohio, and was early instructed in the duties of farm life. In 1884 his nuptials with Miss Mary Livingston, a native

of Ohio, and the daughter of Chris. Livingston, were celebrated, and the result of this union was one child—Dora. The father of Mrs. Fassler died in Ohio in 1885, but the mother is still living, and makes her home in that State. In 1883 Mr. Fassler came to Webster County, Neb., and purchased a partly improved farm of 160 acres, which he immediately began improving, erecting a good frame house and planting a good orchard. He is also engaged in raising stock, principally hogs. He is a Democrat in politics, and socially is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He and Mrs. Fassler are members of the Lutheran Church, at Blue Hill, and are highly esteemed citizens.

E. H. Foe, farmer and stockman, Cowles, Neb. Webster County is acknowledged by all to be one of the best agricultural portions of the State, and as such its citizens are men of advanced ideas and considerable prominence. A worthy man among this class is found in the person of Mr. Foe, who owes his nativity to Canada, where his birth occurred in 1828, and was the sixth of ten children born to Samuel and Elizabeth (Owen) Foe, natives of Lincolnshire, England. The parents took passage for Canada on a sailing vessel in 1818, and were three months in making the trip. The father was a farmer, and although educated for a profession, he still continued to till the soil. He made two visits to his native land and died in Canada in 1838. The mother died about 1856. E. H. Foe was reared to farm life, and was also in a tavern for a number of years. He worked for his board and attended the schools of Canada as he could. In 1850 his marriage to Miss Harriet Stevenson was consummated, she having been a native of Ireland, and by this union there were born two children: Samuel W. (who is married and resides in Red Cloud) and Harriet (who resides in Canada). Mrs. Foe was the daughter of Andrew and Susan Stephenson, natives of Ireland, who came to Canada at an early day and there passed the closing scenes of their lives. Mr. Foe lost his excellent wife in Monroe County, Wis., in November, 1865, he having moved to that State in the early part of that year. He was married again in Canada in 1866 to Miss Lois Hurd, a native of Canada,* and the

daughter of Ashel and Laura (Chapman) Hurd, natives, also, of Canada. Mr. Hurd was a farmer and blacksmith by occupation and emigrated to Poweshiek County, Iowa, in 1867, settling on a farm, where he remained until 1883, when he moved to Cowles, Webster County, Neb. There his death occurred on July 1, 1887. The mother died in December, 1885. After his marriage Mr. Foe moved to Iowa, and in 1873 to Webster County, Neb., where he opened up land, improved it, and is now the owner of 320 acres in a good state of cultivation. He is a Republican in politics and an active supporter of all laudable public enterprises. He and Mrs. Foe are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cowles. To their union have been born seven children: Laura Eliza, Thornton, Olive, Charles, Fred, Ross and Lynn. Mr. Foe has seen the full growth of the country, and is one of the pioneers of the same. He passed through the grasshopper raids of 1874 and 1875, and experienced many of the hardships incident to the early settlement of a State.

L. H. Fort, clerk of the district court of Webster County, Neb., was born in Cass County, Ill., December 26, 1849, the eldest of four boys living of J. L. and Martha E. (Gunter) Fort. His father was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal persuasion, and when our subject was three years of age moved his family to Missouri, thence one year later to Mills County, Iowa. From Iowa he was transferred to Nebraska City in the spring of 1860, and took a circuit south of that place, and at the end of one year was assigned to Peru. Next he went to Plattsmouth, where he labored for one year, and then gave up his ministerial duties and returned to Nebraska City in 1863. He spent the best part of his life in pioneer missionary work in Nebraska, for which he got no material return, and is now spending the evening of his life in comfort on a farm near Palmyra, Neb. His wife died in Iowa. Our subject commenced work for himself with the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Omaha when he was sixteen years of age, and earned enough money to pay for his education, besides sending his father money. He was educated in the high school at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

He crossed the plains in 1863, but later returned, and was engaged at different occupations until 1880, when he entered the clerk's office in Nemaha County, remaining there for four years and then coming to Red Cloud. He is now serving as clerk of the court of Webster County, and has proved himself an efficient officer. In politics he votes with the Republican party, and in secret societies belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the M. W. A. His wife is a member of the Christian Church. He is fair complexioned, a pleasant and agreeable gentleman, and looks and acts young for his years, and is very popular in this city and county.

Charles W. Fuller is engaged in merchandising at Cowles, and also gives considerable of his attention to the purchase and sale of stock and grain. His birth occurred in Rensselaer County, N. Y., in the year 1845, his parents being Jacob and Matilda (Kipp) Fuller, both of whom were also born in that State, the former in 1815, his death occurring in 1860. In 1853 young Charles was taken from his native State to Jones County, Iowa, and in that State he attained manhood and received a common-school education. He joined the Union army in 1861, becoming a member of Company D, Ninth Iowa Infantry, and served until 1862, when he was transferred to the Second Iowa Cavalry, Company L, known as Gen. Hatch's old regiment, in which he served until the close of the war, taking part in the following named engagements: Pea Ridge, Vicksburg, Corinth, Iuka, Moscow, Germantown, West Point, then returned to Memphis and joined A. J. Smith, taking part in the three-days' fight at Tupelo. Florence, Ala., was the next scene of action, and here it was that Hood's army was met and the sixty-four days' campaign began. The three-days' battle of Duck River was next fought between Hood and Schofield, after which Mr. Fuller's command took part in the engagement of Franklin, where another three-days' engagement was carried on. Later, at Nashville, Hood's army was annihilated. Upon the termination of the war Mr. Fuller returned to Jones County, Iowa, where, in 1868, he was married to Miss Georgia Darling, who was born in Lake County, Ill., in 1846, a

daughter of Charles and Amanda (Tucker) Darling, natives of the "Green Mountain State." Mrs. Fuller is one of three children, and has, herself, borne a family of seven children: Grace (Mrs. Good, of Cowles), Chloe, Lewis, Florence, Helen, Mabel and Fred. Mr. Fuller has always supported the measures of the Republican party, and has held various political positions in the township where he resided. He belongs to the G. A. R. and the I. O. O. F., and he and family attend the Congregational Church.

Fred A. Good, of the firm of Fuller & Good, general merchants of Cowles, Neb., was born at Freeport, Ill., in 1866, a son of William and Olive (Hurd) Good, natives of England and Canada, respectively, the former's birth occurring in 1837, and the latter's in 1834. William Good is now residing in Marion, Iowa. His children are named as follows: Fred A., Arthur, Fannie (now Mrs. Kyle, of Lincoln, Neb.,) and Martin. In 1887 Fred A. Good came to Cowles and engaged in the hardware business, but has since added a stock of dry goods and groceries. He is associated in business with his father-in-law, with whom he does the most extensive business in the place. They also ship the largest amount of stock sent from this point. January 1, 1889, Mr. Good espoused Miss Grace, a daughter of his partner, and their union has resulted in the birth of one child, Georgia. In November, 1889, Mr. Good was elected township treasurer and tax collector on the Independent ticket for a term of two years.

Hon. Silas Garber. Among the names that will live long in Nebraska history, none deserve a more prominent place than that of Silas Garber, ex-Governor of Nebraska, and the subject of this sketch. The name Garber was borne by those great ancestors of Silas who were transplanted to this country from Switzerland before the Revolutionary War. The branch from which our subject is descended settled in Virginia, and Mr. Garber has in his possession patents to lands signed in 1650. The subject of this sketch is a son of Martin and Magdalena (Mohler) Garber, and grew to manhood and received a common-school education in Ohio. He was a Union man, and when the war broke out,

with the characteristic zeal that has always distinguished him as a leader of men, he entered the Federal army and fought heroically for liberty and union. He joined the Third Missouri Infantry, but was afterward promoted to a captaincy in Company D, Twenty-seventh Iowa, in which capacity he served for three years. His dauntless courage and soldierly mien so inspired his soldiers that they never thought of fear while "Capt. Garber," as he is still familiarly called by friends, was at the front. The battles in which he participated are: Capture of Little Rock, September 10, 1863; Fort DeRusey, La., March 17, 1864; Pleasant Hill, La., April 9, 1864; Old Oakes, May 18, 1864; Lake Chicot, June 6, 1864; Tupelo, Miss., July 14, 1864; Old Town Creek, July 15, 1864, and Nashville, Tenn., December 15 and 16, 1864. Gov. Garber is a tall man, of commanding appearance, and is quite fleshy, but in those days was slim and well knit. He would have made a characteristic cavalier or courtier, but was well adapted to the vicissitudes of pioneer life. Seeking a broad field in which to operate, he went to California and there engaged in merchandising, and subsequently in mining. He had intended entering the stock business, and was induced to come to the valley of the Republican River, by the descriptions given of its pasture lands by a Mexican in his employ. He came here in the spring of 1870 and found only two settlers in all Webster County. His idea of entering the stock business was cut short by the tide of immigration which set in early in the seventies, so he became a pioneer general merchant of Red Cloud instead, one small grocery store being built before he entered the business. In business, Silas Garber was strictly honorable and honest, even in trading with the Indians. So great a name had he for fair dealing with the Indians that he would get several hundred beaver hides while his competitors would get, perhaps, two or three in exchange for goods. Mr. Garber was destined without his solicitation to fill high places to which he did not aspire. A gentleman of high standing who was intimately acquainted with Gov. Garber in those early days says: "He could not in those days pass into a crowd without it being remarked

that he was a man of superior qualities." This fact, coupled with his honesty and loyalty to friendship, caused him to be solicited to accept the position of register of public lands of Nebraska. He at first hesitated, but being prevailed upon, he accepted the appointment. So satisfactory was his work in the land office that soon gubernatorial honors were laid at his feet, and that before he had been register of lands one year. In the fall of 1873 he was elected Governor of Nebraska, and was re-elected in the fall of 1875 and served until 1878. His reign as Governor was one of the most prosperous experienced in the history of any State. He saw the State a vacant wild, and but a few years later stepped down from the Governor's chair to behold a populous and thrifty commonwealth. He returned to Red Cloud and entered the stock business, but failing health soon compelled him to abandon it. Upon recovering his health he became the vice-president of the Red Cloud National Bank, and in 1887 he organized the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank of Red Cloud, of which latter institution he is now the president. Before he served as register of lands, he represented Webster, Nuckolls and Thayer Counties in the State Legislature. Gov. Garber hauled the first lumber ever brought into Webster County with two ox-teams from Grand Island, Neb., and there was not a wagon track between here and the Platte River at that time. When he was Governor, as when he was register of lands, simple honest justice was his motto, and no one ever received a favor by getting him to break the law. Gov. Garber has been twice married, his first wife, to whom he was united in Iowa, passing away during the war, and he was again married while Governor of Nebraska. Gov. Garber has one child, a son by his first wife, named William Seward, secretary of the board of transportation in Lincoln.

Ed. Gilford, cashier of Cowles Bank. It is the aim of this work to give a true history of the county and its representative citizens, and to accomplish this object mention must be made of Mr. Gilford, one of the leading men of the county. He was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., in 1841, and while still an infant was taken by his parents

to Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm, and attended the common schools of the neighborhood. In early youth he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until the outbreak of the war, when he enlisted in Company I, Forty-fifth Wisconsin Infantry, and served Uncle Sam faithfully and well for ten months. At the close of the war he returned to his home, and soon after was united in matrimonial bonds to Miss Elizabeth Cuppenull. He came west in 1880, first locating at Amboy, Webster County, but at the end of one and one-half years he came to Cowles and opened up a general merchandise business, which he continued until 1889. He is now engaged in lending money for a company composed of L. C. and A. D. Gillett, J. H. Clark, John Blaine, himself and others. In connection with these interests he is also in partnership with a Mr. Waller, in the grain business. Their elevator, which he helped to build, is the only steam elevator in the place. Mr. Gilford is also the owner of one and one-half sections of land in Dakota. Mr. Gilford's father, a soldier in the War of 1812, was born in Ireland, coming to America at an early day. He married Miss Charity Orr, and by her was the father of seven children, five of whom survive. He was a farmer by occupation, and died in Wisconsin at the advanced age of eighty-six; his wife died in 1867.

J. S. Gilliam, a prominent attorney of Red Cloud, was born in Wisconsin in 1852, grew to manhood in his native State, and graduated at Beloit College in 1872. His father and mother were natives of England; the former, a farmer by occupation, is now dead, but the mother is still living. He read law in Shullsburg, Wis., and was admitted to the bar in 1873. In the spring of 1874 he came west, and on June 4 of the same year opened a law office in Red Cloud. In the spring of 1875 he served as a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in the fall of the same year was elected superintendent of public schools. During his incumbency of this office he was principal of the Red Cloud public school, edited the Chief, and in connection with all this attended to his law practice, which, at that early day was not

inconsiderable. In 1876 he was elected to the State Senate, being one of the youngest men composing that august body, and has since then served as county attorney. Since 1877 he has devoted himself entirely to his profession, and has won to his credit an enviable reputation, and built up a remunerative practice. He does not do a collecting business, but devotes himself exclusively to law. He is the owner of some 1,300 acres of good land. In 1877 his marriage with a daughter of Dr. Tulleys, of this place, was consummated, and to this union have been born two children. Mr. Gilliam is the fortunate owner of a splendid library, containing many choice volumes. He is a Royal Arch Mason, belongs to the A. O. U. W., and votes with the Republican party.

Albert N. Godwin, farmer and stock-raiser, Cowles, Neb. Nowhere in Webster County is there to be found a young man of more energy or determined will or force of character than Mr. Godwin possesses, and no young agriculturist is deserving of greater success in the conduct and management of a farm than he. Born in Mercer County, Pa., in 1854, he is the son of Richard and Tobitha (Fritz) Godwin, natives of England and Pennsylvania respectively. The parents moved to Ohio in 1856, settled in Portage County, and there Albert N. attained his growth, receiving his education in the common schools. He was engaged in the dairy business from the age of seventeen to about twenty-seven years of age, and in 1876 was married to Miss Bell Niece, daughter of Charles and Abbie (Thurston) Niece, natives of the Buckeye State. Mr. and Mrs. Godwin came to Illinois in 1876, located in Will County, and were engaged in the dairy business for three years, after which they moved to Richardson County, Neb. There Mr. Godwin cultivated the soil until 1882, when he moved to Hamilton County, Neb., and after a residence there of two years moved to Webster County, where he has since made his home. He is now actively and assiduously engaged in overseeing his fine farm of 320 acres, all improved and fairly well stocked. He has always been identified with the Democratic party, politically. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, being one of the charter

members of Willow Creek Lodge, and is a man who has the respect and confidence of all. Mrs. Godwin is a member of the Society of Friends. They are the parents of three interesting children: Bessie H. (born June 15, 1877), Flora F. (born December 15, 1879) and Josie J. (born September 6, 1883).

Joseph L. Grandstaff, the subject of this sketch, owes his nativity to Guernsey County, Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1847. His great-grandparents were natives of Germany, and came to America in an early day. His great-grandfather was in the Revolutionary War, under Gen. Washington, his death occurring about the year 1828. His grandfather was born in what is now West Virginia, near the present city of Wheeling. He went through the War of 1812, and was in Hull's surrender, his death occurring during the Civil War in the year 1865. In his grandfather's family there were eight children, his father being the youngest. In his father's family he was the third of five children born to Eli and Mary J. (Imley) Grandstaff. The former, a native of Knox County, Ohio, was born in the year 1821, and emigrated to Iowa in 1853, going from there in 1870 to Mercer County, Mo., where he now resides. His mother was born in Washington County, N. J., in 1824, her parents moving to Ohio while she was quite young. He was six years old when his parents moved to Guthrie County, Iowa, residing there till he was past sixteen, when he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry; was mustered into the service at Davenport, Iowa; was assigned to the trans-Mississippi department, and participated in Gen. Steele's famous Camden expedition through Arkansas. He took part in the battles of Little Missouri River, Prairie de Ann and Jenkins' Ferry, and one continual skirmishing during the entire campaign. He was also at the surrender of Mobile and in the battles of Forts Spanish and Blakely. He was discharged at New Orleans in 1865, and returned to Iowa. From there he came to Nebraska, in 1866, settled in Merrick County, and the same summer signed the petition for the then Territory of Nebraska to become a State. He is a Republican in politics, and socially a mem-

ber of A. E. Burnside Post No. 79, G. A. R., Bladen. He came to Nebraska a single man, was married in 1874 to Miss Minta Keith, a native of Wisconsin, and the daughter of Lewis and Albina (Selleek) Keith. Her father was a native of Ohio, and also her grandfather, her grandparents on the father's side coming from Germany, and on the mother's side from Canada. His marriage resulted in the birth of three children: Percie, Roy and Josie. He took the second homestead September 2, 1871, and is now the oldest resident in what is now Glenwood Township. He owns considerable land in Webster and Adams Counties, and is engaged in stock-raising to a considerable extent, all his worldly possessions originating from his energy and industry since coming to Nebraska.

Stephen C. Green, a prominent agriculturist of Webster County, was born in Rhode Island in 1855, the fourth in a family of ten children raised by John and Ellen (Welsh) Green, both born in England, the former in 1825 and the latter in 1827. They were married August 8, 1846, and emigrated from their native land in 1855, locating in Rhode Island, where they remained one year, and then for the next twenty-seven years (two years of the time living in Iroquois County) made their home in Kane County, Ill. They had a family of nine children, viz.: James (born in England), Jane (born and died in England), Henry (also born in England), Stephen (the subject of this sketch), Mary, Joseph, John, Ellen and Emma (all born in Illinois); the tenth child died when an infant. In 1883 they came to Webster County and purchased land, and here the father passed from life on January 31, 1888, the mother having died March 10, 1887. They were both formerly members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but at the time of their death the mother belonged to the United Brethren Church and the father to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The boyhood of our subject was spent in Illinois, and at the age of twenty years he started in life for himself as an agriculturist. He came with his father to Nebraska in 1883, and purchased 160 acres of good land, on which he now lives, engaged extensively in raising cattle, horses and hogs, and by earnest, hard work and good

management he has succeeded in accumulating a comfortable competence. Mr. Green was united in matrimonial bonds in 1884 to Miss Laura Quiggle, daughter of Robert Quiggle, of this county, and they are the parents of two bright little children: Nellie E. and Ernest A. Mr. Green votes with the Republican party, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

D. G. Grice, farmer and stock-raiser of Batin Township, located in this county in 1879, coming from Kankakee County, Ill., and immediately after his arrival here purchased 160 acres of railroad land, some thirty or forty acres of which were broken, and moved on to the farm in November of the same year. Mr. Grice was born in Crawford County, Ill., on November 6, 1835, being the oldest of four children born to William R. and Pheriba A. (Willard) Grice, both of whom were natives of North Carolina. The father moved to Illinois with his parents at an early day, and there grew to manhood and passed his life, dying in 1840. His widow survived until July, 1880, when she closed her eyes to the scenes of this world, her death occurring in Crawford County, Ill. Of the four children born to them, but two are now living, namely: D. G. (the subject of this sketch) and Sarah E. (now Mrs. S. E. Stricklett, of Clark County, Ill.). D. G. Grice was reared to farm life, receiving his education in the common schools of Crawford and Will Counties, Ill., to which latter county he had moved in his fifteenth year. He was married in Will County, Ill., in 1857, to Miss B. Matilda Taylor, who was born in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1839, being a daughter of Thomas J. and Sarah M. (White) Taylor, the former of whom was born in Kentucky, and the latter in Tennessee. Her father moved to Sullivan County in 1819, when he was ten years of age, there married, and made his home until 1845, when he moved to Will County (now Kankakee County), and opened up a farm, on which he lived until his death in 1875; his wife died in Sullivan County, Ind., in 1841. After his marriage Mr. Grice settled on a farm and tilled the soil very successfully until the outbreak of the war. October 15, 1861, he enlisted at Chicago, Ill., in Company E, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer

Infantry for three years, was mustered into service at Camp Douglass, and assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He was in the battle at Winchester, and up the Shenandoah River, besides many skirmishes, then started to Richmond, returned, and was in the battle of Port Republic. He received a slight gunshot wound at Winchester. After the battle of Port Republic his company went to reinforce Gen. McClellan, and was in the battle of Malvern Hill, and after this battle (November 19, 1862), on account of disability, Mr. Grice was honorably discharged at Grand Island, N. Y. In 1864 Mr. Grice re-enlisted in Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was assigned to the Seventeenth Army Corps, and served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged at Camp Butler, Chicago, on April 19, 1866. During his latter enlistment, he was at Jackson Cross Roads, on July 6 and 7, 1864; in Sherman's Raid to Meridian, Miss., in March, 1864; at the battle of Fort Blakely, Ala., in April, 1865, and during the intervals was on garrison duty, and on scouting expeditions in Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. After the battle of Fort Blakely, Mr. Grice was transferred to the Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry. He was wounded at this battle, and was confined in the hospital at New Orleans, and also at Mound City, Ill. After receiving his discharge, Mr. Grice returned to his home and engaged in farming in Illinois until 1879, when, in June of that year, he came to Webster County and took up his present farm, and has witnessed all the changes which have been wrought in this country since that time. He takes an active interest in politics, casting his vote with the Republican party, and has served as supervisor of Batin Township, and one term as assessor. In 1887 he moved to Red Cloud, was elected constable, and also served as deputy sheriff of Webster County. He has always taken an active interest in school matters, and served on the school board for five years. Both he and wife are earnest workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which they are members, taking a particular interest in Sunday-school work, Mr. Grice having been superintendent of the Sabbath-school for two years. Mrs. Grice is a member of the Women's Relief Corps

of the G. A. R., of Red Cloud, and in 1888 she served as its treasurer. Mr. and Mrs. Grice were the parents of five children, but three of whom are now living. Their eldest child, William O. died in 1858, at the age of two weeks; Fred R. died in 1862, aged two years three months and twelve days; Herbert E. is a pharmacist and makes his home in Red Cloud, and Flavius J., Mary and Louisa are all at home. Mr. Grice belongs to Garfield Post No. 80, G. A. R., and is a strong supporter of the Farmers' Alliance.

John F. Grimes is a well-known druggist of Blue Hill, Neb., and has a well-appointed establishment. He was born in the town of Waynesboro, Pa., September 28, 1848, and is a son of John and Mary (Hoke) Grimes, being the youngest of their six children, four of whom are now living. The father, who was a mechanic by trade, died on July 14, 1870, but his widow survives him, and is a resident of Knoxville, Ill., whither they had moved in 1852. Here John F. Grimes spent his boyhood and youth, receiving his early education in the schools of that place. When about twenty years of age, Mr. Grimes became the proprietor of a confectionery establishment in Knoxville, and successfully conducted it for about six years. In 1878 he came to the State of Nebraska, and after spending six months clerking in a drug store in Hastings, he, on November 19, 1878, came to Blue Hill, Neb., and here for a few years he was the manager of a drug and general mercantile establishment. In 1882 he embarked in the former business on his own account, and has conducted an establishment of that kind ever since, having at the present time the largest store of the kind in the place. His wife, who was formerly Miss Myra E. Lynn, was born in Lockport, Ill., being a daughter of George K. and Anna (Alison) Lynn, their union taking place on June 14, 1882. Mr. Grimes and his wife have four children: Edward Lynn, Lloyd Owen, Irma Catherine, and John Herbert. Mr. Grimes is conceded to be a prosperous business man, and as a citizen he is honored and respected by all.

D. L. Groat, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 32, Town 2, Range 12, Webster County,

Neb., was born in New York, in July, 1840, the fourth of a family of six children born to the union of John and Effie (Blakesley) Groat, both natives of the "Empire State," the former of Dutch descent. His father, a farmer by occupation, spent his youthful days in his native State, and was married at the age of twenty-two years. When the subject of this sketch was about three years of age, his parents moved from New York to McHenry County, Ill., among the first settlers of that State. His father died here in 1854. His widow survived him twenty-seven years, dying in Iowa in 1881. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject, D. L. Groat, was reared to maturity in Illinois, receiving a common-school education. May 24, 1861, he entered the United States service, enlisting in Company A, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, Capt. L. D. Kelly, commander, in which he remained for three years, taking part in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, siege of Vicksburg, besides many skirmishes. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., June 14, 1864. After his discharge from the army he returned to his home in Illinois, remaining there three years, and then going to Winnebago County, Iowa. Here he spent another three years, and then removed to Webster County, Neb., entering as a homestead the northeast quarter of Section 32, Town 2, Range 12. He arrived here in the fall of 1871, and in the spring of 1872 he broke land and put out a crop, and has raised a crop each year ever since. Five years ago he sold his homestead and purchased his present farm. He has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, and would not exchange his home here for one in any other State. In his political views, Mr. Groat inclines to the Republican party. He is a member of T. B. Blair Post No. 150, G. A. R., Riverton, Neb. In December, 1864, Mr. Groat was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Weaver, daughter of Peter and Nancy (Dickerson) Weaver, of McHenry County, Ill., and by this union is the father of six children, viz.: Erminie, David A., Edwin, Elbert, Dora and Morris, all of whom reside at home except David A.

James Groves was born in Marion County, Ind., in 1845, the fourth in a family of five children born to Samuel and Ellen Groves, *nee* Hayes, their names being John C., William (deceased in Indiana about 1852), Mary A., James and Robert. His father was born in Pennsylvania, but early in life went to Indiana, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits and was married. In 1867 he immigrated to Illinois, settling on a farm in Vermilion County, where he is still living. His wife died in Indiana when the subject of this sketch was a child. Mr. Groves, Sr., votes the Republican ticket, and has always supported the man and measures of that party. At the time of the war he was a member of the Home Guards, and his three sons, John, James and Robert, were in the service. James, whose name appears above, enlisted in Company K, Seventieth Indiana Infantry, Col. B. Harrison commander, and took part in the battles of Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Averysboro, Lookout Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Savannah, Bentonville (some thirty hard-fought battles in all), and was with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea. He contracted the rheumatism while in the army, from the effects of which he has never entirely recovered. In February, 1865, Mr. Groves was taken prisoner near Goldsboro, S. C., but escaped the same day, and at the close of the war was in the grand parade at Washington, at which city he was mustered out, and received his discharge in Indiana in 1865, after which he returned to his home and engaged in farming. In 1867 he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Fred, daughter of Israel Fred, of Indiana, and the same year immigrated to Illinois, locating near Rossville, in Vermilion County, where he followed farming until 1882. Here he had the misfortune to lose his wife, in 1872, who died, leaving three little daughters, Dora, Cora and Laura, motherless. Dora is now Mrs. Sherley, Cora now Mrs. Hudson, and Laura now Mrs. Haas. Mrs. Groves was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and an earnest Christian lady. In 1876 Mr. Groves was married to Miss Sarah Duke, a native of Indiana, and to this union five children were born, as follows: Samuel (deceased), Docia (deceased), Nora

(at home), and two children who died in infancy. In 1882 Mr. Groves came to Webster County, Neb., and purchased the 160 acres on which he now lives, which he has greatly improved with nice buildings, etc., etc., and on which he has set out a nice young grove and orchard, and here he is extensively engaged in raising grain, horses, cattle and hogs. As the result of his hard labor and good management, he has been very successful since coming to this county, and is well satisfied to make this his permanent home. Mr. Groves votes a straight Republican ticket, and takes an active interest in local politics. He was elected supervisor of Stillwater Township in 1885, and is still serving in that capacity, to the entire satisfaction of all the tax-payers of that township. Mr. Groves is a member of the Christian Church, in which he is an elder and a zealous worker. He belongs to the G. A. R and to the Alliance.

George W. Hagan, proprietor of the Republican Valley Fruit Farm and Nursery, Guide Rock, Neb. Mr. Hagan was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, September 10, 1842. His father, Samuel Hagan, was born in Pennsylvania, but early in life went with his parents to Ohio, and there grew to manhood, subsequently marrying Miss Eleanor Jones, a native of Ohio. He was a shoemaker by occupation. In 1856 he moved with his family to Iowa, locating in Wapello County, residing there until 1860, when he moved to Warren County, where he made his home until 1886, when he came to Nebraska, and now resides near his son—the subject of this sketch. George W. Hagan grew to manhood in Iowa, remaining with his father until he was eighteen years of age. He then left his home and enlisted, August 15, 1861, in Company G, Tenth Iowa Infantry, for three years, at the end of which time he veteranized and served until the close of the war, being discharged at Little Rock, in August, 1865. Among the principal engagements in which he participated may be mentioned Bloomfield (in this battle seven men out of his company were lost), New Madrid, siege of Corinth, Iuka, Battle of Corinth, Champion's Hill, siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Goldsboro, Bentonville. Mr. Hagan feels justly proud

of the fact that he was in the grand parade at Washington at the close of the war. After receiving his discharge he returned to Iowa, and the following year engaged in farming in Warren County, continuing this occupation until 1885. In March, 1885, he moved from Warren County to Nebraska, and purchased the place on which he now resides. He immediately commenced putting out trees, and now has thirty-eight acres in nursery and orchard. He has a large variety of apple, plum, apricot, peach, cherry, pear, and grape-vines, and everything needed for the successful fruit raisers of the county, besides a large assortment of evergreens, ornamental trees, shrubbery, etc. Mr. Hagan was married in Warren County, Iowa, November 15, 1867, to Miss Sarah J. Moore, born in Ohio, but reared in Warren County, Iowa, a daughter of Samuel Moore. Mr. and Mrs. Hagan are the parents of nine children—six sons and three daughters, viz.: Ida May (wife of Presley Reeves of this county), William R. (makes his home in Iowa), Luella (a young lady at home) and Charles E., Emmett A., Eli E., Arch Ray, Iva Belle and George Irving, all at home. Mr. Hagan is a member of the G. A. R., being commander of T. O. Howe Post No. 138, and also belongs to the A. O. U. W. In politics he sides with the Republican party.

Henry Haines, residing on Section 12, Town 4, Range 9, Oak Creek Township, is justly numbered among the substantial agriculturists of Webster County. He also has the honor of being one of the pioneers of this county, as he came here in 1874 when the country was but thinly inhabited, and has witnessed its entire growth and development. Upon his arrival he was so well pleased with the locality that he resolved to make it his home, accordingly he homesteaded 160 acres of land, on which he settled his family. To this he has since added eighty acres, and now owns a fine farm of 240 acres of land, well improved, with nice grove and orchard, and devotes his attention to farming and stock-raising, at which he has been very successful, and as the result of his industry and good management has accumulated a fine property. His son, Lincoln, is married and assists

his father on the farm. Mr. Haines was born in Berks County, Pa., in 1820, the only child born to Henry and Mary (Hess) Haines, the former born in Philadelphia, Pa., in the latter part of 17—. He was a carpenter and cabinet-maker, and lived, was married and died in Pennsylvania; his wife died in Northampton County, of the same State. Their son Henry, our subject, received a meager education, being brought up to hard labor on the farm. In 1838 he was married to Elizabeth McGee, who bore him eight children, viz.: Howard, Jane, William, John, Charles, Frank, Robert and Kattie. Mrs. Haines died in 1855, in Illinois, whither the family had emigrated in 1844. In 1856 Mr. Haines was married to Miss Christiana Shirk, daughter of Andrew Shirk, of Illinois. This latter union was blessed with seven children, viz.: Cyrus, Sophia, Lincoln, Addie, Grant, Wheeler and Sarah E. (who died in 1885). Mr. Haines continued to reside in Illinois until 1874, when he came to Nebraska. He is a staunch Republican, taking an active interest in politics. He has served as overseer of roads in Oak Creek Township. Mr. Haines is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and takes a deep interest in church and school work, as he does in all things tending to the welfare of the community.

L. H. Haines is the oldest son of Henry Haines, of Webster County, and lives in the same township as his father, on Section 22, Town 4, Range 9, where he is successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1842, but he spent his school days and grew to manhood in Illinois, in which State he was married, in 1864, to Mrs. Susan Nestelroade, daughter of Andrew Shirk, a widow. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company B, Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry, in which he served his country loyally and well until the close of the war, being discharged as corporal at Springfield, Ill., in 1865. Among the battles in which he participated, the principal ones are Farmington, Corinth, Iuka, Jackson, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Marietta, Big Shanty. During the battle of Vicksburg he was laid up with sickness. At the close of the war Mr. Haines returned to his home in Illinois, and

followed farming in that State until 1869, at that time going to Iowa, and residing there until 1872, when he came to Nebraska and took up the homestead on which he now lives. Mr. Haines came to Nebraska when the chief inhabitants of the plains were numerous herds of buffalo, and he often indulged in the sport of hunting these wild animals. He has done remarkably well since locating in this county, and now has a nice farm with 120 acres of it under cultivation, on which are a nice young grove and orchard, good buildings, etc., and every facility for raising cattle, horses and hogs, in which occupation he is extensively engaged. Mr. Haines is Republican in his political views, and belongs to the G. A. R., and the Farmers' Alliance. Mr. and Mrs. Haines are parents of four children, viz.: Howard (born August 30, 1869), Charles (born August 26, 1872), Lettie (born May 3, 1876) and Austin (born July 3, 1882).

Hon. Isaiah B. Hampton, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Webster County, Neb. The subject of this sketch was born in Livingston County, N. Y., June 13, 1841, a son of Frederick and Amanda (McMurray) Hampton, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively. When Isaiah B. was a child of three years, his parents decided to try their fortunes elsewhere, and accordingly moved to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where the mother died in 1847, leaving four children—two sons and two daughters—all of whom grew to mature years, and three of whom are still living. One daughter died in her sixteenth year; the other daughter, Rosetta, is the wife of Menzo Best, and makes her home in California. The father married again after his first wife's death, and continued to make Kalamazoo County his home until his death, which occurred in December, 1862. During his residence in Michigan he held several important local offices, and was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Isaiah B. Hampton grew to manhood in Kalamazoo County, Mich., receiving but little schooling until after he reached mature years, when he educated himself. August 5, 1861, he enlisted as private in the First Michigan Cavalry, and was honorably discharged, for disability, as commissary-sergeant, in April, 1864.

He took part in thirty-two engagements, a few of the principal ones being: Second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Fredericksburg, Winchester, Gettysburg. He was wounded twice in one day at the second battle of Bull Run, and to-day carries a ball received in the neck at that place. After his discharge he returned to Kalamazoo County, Mich., and carried on his trade, that of a blacksmith and carriage-maker, at Vicksburg, until 1870, in June of that year locating in Webster County, and taking up the homestead on which he now resides in July of the same year, all of which is now broken and well improved. He is the owner of 480 acres of land, 200 of which are under a high state of cultivation. This he has well improved with a neat one-story residence, good barn and granaries, etc., with a good fruit orchard and a fine grove. He has ten acres in walnuts alone. In 1875 he engaged in the merchandise business, at Red Cloud, continuing this business in connection with blacksmithing and carriage-making until 1883, when he returned to his farm. He has always been identified with the Republican party, and has ever been a supporter of the men and measures of that party. He has served as a member of the county board for several years, also as supervisor of his township. He was elected to the Legislature, representing Webster County for a term of two years, in 1879, and is still serving in that capacity. He has served as delegate to county, district and State conventions, and generally takes an active part in the campaigns. In November, 1863, his marriage to Miss Catherine Woodward was consummated. She was born in St. Joe County, Mich., and reared and educated in her native State, and died in December, 1868, leaving her husband one little daughter, Nellie, now the wife of Samuel Jennings. In January, 1871, Mr. Hampton took a second wife, wedding Miss Alice Delbridge, a native of New York, but reared and educated in Michigan, by whom he became the father of four children, viz.: Arthur (died January 3, 1876, age five years), Rena (an attractive young lady), Ernest and Lloyd. Mr. Hampton is a Royal Arch Mason, and has served as master of the Blue Lodge; he also belongs to the G. A. R.

Lucian A. Haskins. Among the representative farmers of this section may be mentioned Lucian A. Haskins, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on the southeast quarter of Section 21, Line Township. He was born October 4, 1850, in Onondaga County, N. Y., a son of William L. and Lois L. (Rogers) Haskins, natives of the "Empire State." When the subject of this sketch was eight years of age his parents moved to Juneau County, Wis., settling on a farm, where he was reared to manhood and received a good education in the common schools. In his early youth he followed the occupation of farming, but at the age of twenty-one years he turned his attention to rail-roading. In 1878 he removed to Sheridan County, Kas., and homesteaded a farm of 160 acres, which he still owns. He moved to this county in 1880, and has followed farming here ever since. He now owns a nice eighty-acre farm, where he makes his home, and devotes his entire time and attention to raising fine hogs, mostly Poland-Chinas, and handles only registered stock. He keeps 146 full blood, mostly old hogs, also a number of fine pigs which he sells for breeding purposes. He has a good trade in this portion of the State, and is recognized as one of the fancy hog breeders of Nebraska. He takes great pride and pleasure in showing his hogs to lovers of good stock. He was married October 26, 1871, to Miss Sophia, daughter of William and Liza (Watson) Mahard, of Scotland. She was born in Dayton, Ohio, August 22, 1844. To this union have been born three children, viz.: Willie J., Ernest L. and Ella V. Mr. Haskins takes an active part in politics, and in his political views affiliates with the Republican party. He is now serving as school director, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He has met with reasonable success as a farmer since his sojourn here, the result of determination and perseverance, and is recognized as one of the representative farmers in his township. At the commencement of the war, though but eleven years of age, Mr. Haskins played the fife for the enlisting soldiers in his county, and he has served in a similar capacity at every presidential election since that of Lincoln's.

Joseph E. Haught, who stands high in agricultural circles of Webster County, came originally from Bureau County, Ill., where he was born March 14, 1857. His father, David Haught, was born, raised and married in Pennsylvania, Miss Rachel Province, also a native of Pennsylvania, being an interested party to the latter event. At an early day the parents moved from Pennsylvania and located in Bureau County, Ill., being among the first settlers of that county. They resided there a number of years, and in 1865 removed to Atchison County, Mo., where they took up a farm and remained until 1883, at that time coming to Nebraska and locating in Webster County, where they now reside. Joseph E. Haught, then a lad of eight years, accompanied his parents to Missouri, and grew to manhood in Atchison County. After starting in life for himself he tilled the soil in Atchison County for a few years, and in 1882 came to Nebraska, purchased land and made a good farm. In 1888 he purchased the land on which he now lives, and the same year moved upon the place. He now owns 160 acres of good tillable land, 110 of which are under an excellent state of cultivation, on which he has erected a neat dwelling, good barns, sheds, etc., with wind pump, stock scales, and every facility for handling stock. In connection with a partner, Mr. Haught has been engaged in feeding and dealing in stock ever since his residence in this county. He is now feeding over 100 head of steers and about ninety head of hogs, and is considered among the successful stock feeders of Webster County. In Atchison County, Mo., March 5, 1882, his marriage with Miss Julia Porter was celebrated. She was born in Ohio, but was raised and educated in Atchison County. Her father, William Porter, is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Haught are the parents of three interesting children: David, Ralph and Bertha.

George Heaton, farmer and stock-raiser residing on Section 26, Township 1, Range 12. This prosperous farmer and stock raiser certainly deserves the success which has attended him in life, for it is mainly due to honest hard labor and good management that he has accumulated his posses-

sions. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, in May, 1838, and is the next to the youngest of seven sons born to Aaron and Leah (Meadowcroft) Heaton. His father was also a native of England, and was in the British service during the War of 1812. In 1854 he emigrated with his family to America and settled in Somerset County, Pa., where he died one year later; his wife died in 1877. They were both members of the Episcopal Church. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his school days in England, where he learned the tanner's trade. He began life for himself at the age of nineteen years, as a miner in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, following this occupation until 1865, at that time engaging in agricultural pursuits in Will County, Ill., where he remained for six years, and then came to Webster County, Neb. He came here in May, 1871, and took up a homestead of 160 acres, to which he has since added eighty acres, making a fine stock farm of 240 acres on Buffalo Creek. He is engaged in raising stock quite extensively, making a specialty of Clydesdale and Norman horses, Poland-China hogs, and a good grade of cattle. In November, 1859, he was joined in matrimonial bonds to Miss Annie Easton, daughter of Nicholas and Jane Easton, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of England. By this union he has these children, viz.: Aaron, James, George, William, Thomas and Eddie. Mr. Heaton votes the Republican ticket, and is a liberal supporter of all public enterprises.

Peter Hill is one of the leading stockmen and farmers of Webster County, Neb., and has resided here since April, 1883. His birth occurred in Sussex, England, in 1854, and two years later he was brought to the United States by his parents, Joseph and Mary (Brown) Hill, who were also natives of England. After the mother's death, which occurred in 1864, the subject of this sketch was without a home until he had acquired sufficient means to make one for himself. His marriage to Miss Nancy J. Vice, took place in 1878, her home being in Marion County, Ill., where Mr. Hill had located with his parents on first coming to America. They have a family of four children:

Harry, Lena, Charles L. and William P. Mr. Hill made his home in the State of Illinois until 1881, when, thinking to better his condition, he moved to Iowa, locating in Adair County, where he purchased a farm, but sold out in April, 1883, and came to Webster County, Neb., where he has since lived, engaged in tilling the soil. Mr. Hill is associated in the stock-raising business with Mr. Latham, and they are doing a very prosperous business. He came to this county with only enough property to run a farm of forty acres, and with but \$90 in money, but by hard work, economy and good management he has accumulated a handsome competency and has a comfortable home. He is a Republican in his political views, and is the present president of the Farmers' Alliance organization at Cowles. He has also served one term as county supervisor, and was justice of the peace in Elm Creek Township for two years, but refused re-election.

W. W. Hogate, farmer and stock-raiser, Blue Hill, Neb. A lifetime devoted with perseverance and energy to the pursuits of agriculture has contributed very materially to the success which has attended the efforts of Mr. Hogate, a man of substantial and established worth. He is a native of New Jersey, his birth occurring in Atlanta County, in 1836, and is the seventh of eight children born to the marriage of Philip and Rebecca (Kates) Hogate, natives of New Jersey. The father was a farmer and also kept hotel for a number of years. He and wife emigrated to Ohio in 1844, and there resided in Columbiana County, until 1851, when they moved to Indiana, and in 1854 to Henry County, Iowa. In 1878 they moved to Webster County, Neb. There the father received his final summons in 1882, but the mother is still living and resides with our subject. W. W. Hogate received his education in the schools of Ohio, Indiana and Iowa, assisted on the farm until grown, and in 1862 he was married to Miss Julia Frame, a native of Richmond, Ind., and the daughter of Joseph and Susan (Coburn) Frame, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Frame emigrated to Iowa at a very early day and there made their home until 1883, when they

came to Stillwater Township, Webster County, Neb., and there the mother resides at the present time. The father died in February, 1888. Mr. Hogate farmed in Iowa until 1878, when he came to Nebraska. He opened up two farms while living in Iowa, and traded for 320 acres of railroad land which he has since been engaged in improving. He has erected good substantial buildings and has an excellent orchard, etc. He also raises a good grade of stock and is a first-class farmer. In politics he is with the Prohibition party, and has been a member of the board of supervisors. He has been assessor of his township and is now a member of the school board, being quite active in educational matters. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is secretary of Prairie Gem Alliance. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Blue Hill Lodge No. 129, and is also a member of the I. O. G. T., Prairie Gem Lodge No. 7, one of the largest orders in the rural district of the State. Mrs. Hogate is a member of the Baptist Church. Their union resulted in the birth of eight children: Mary (now Mrs. Cunningham, of Webster County), Esther (now Mrs. Norris, of Blue Hill), William (married and resides near by), Charles, Luella, Samuel, Ray and Ethel. In 1882 Mr. Hogate was appointed postmaster of Cloverton, and held the office at his home until it was discontinued.

J. C. Holcomb. Prominently identified with the prosperous and influential citizens of Red Cloud is Josiah Crawford Holcomb, who is a native of Indiana, his birth occurring in Lima, La Grange County, in the year 1840. His father, Almond Fayette Holcomb, was born in Essex County, N. Y. He was a fine scholar, and taught for several years as principal of an academy. The family originally came from Connecticut. His mother, Elizabeth Crawford, was born in Ashtabula, Trumbull County, Ohio, in the year 1818. She descends from the Crawfords of Ohio, to which Col. Crawford belonged. She moved to Indiana and married Mr. Holcomb in 1838, and became the mother of five children, of whom four grew to maturity. Our subject began his career as a printer, serving an apprenticeship in his native town, and afterward

worked on the Kenosha (Wis.) Democrat. From Kenosha he went to Chicago, and was connected with Charles Scott's book and job office. A few years afterward he engaged with C. W. Sanford, a manufacturer of confectionery at 38 Randolph street, that city, to ship goods for the house, and continued in his employ until he came to Nebraska, where he arrived in September, 1870. Traveling from Nebraska City to Beatrice by stage, he there became acquainted with J. W. Burtis, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; they hired a team and driver and bought a cooking outfit and struck out for the great Republican Valley, and on their way saw a great many herds of antelope and elk. Subsequently they arrived at the stockade, where ex-Gov. Garber's beautiful residence now stands. There were five or six families in this stockade, among them being W. E. Jackson's, James Calvert's, Budd Penney's and T. B. Williams'; Capt. Munsell, George Reed, "Pap" Wilson, George Taylor and Sam Davis were also inmates. The stockade was built in a square; along the walls were the cabins, the square being used to enclose stock. There was trouble anticipated from the Indians, hence these precautions. They found Gov. Garber in front of the stockade, and an acquaintance began by an enquiry on his part for some tobacco, which the weary travelers were able to supply. He explained that the long distance from any trading point caused them often to be short of the much needed "soother." The Governor took them up the valley for several days. Mr. Holcomb finally took up the northwest quarter of Section 9, Town 1, Range 12 west, on Walnut Creek, Mr. Burtis taking land, which has since become valuable, near the city of Red Cloud. After deciding on the land he took a trip with the Governor and others to Beatrice, where the land office was located, and homesteaded on the 14th day of October, 1870. On returning to the valley, Gov. Garber organized a buffalo hunt, and those who participated in this month of enjoyment were Mr. Holcomb, David Heffebower, Capt. Munsell, George Reed, George Taylor, Budd Penney and Sam Davis. Mr. Holcomb had been accustomed to the use of the rifle from boyhood, and was very successful in bagging the noble game

which roamed in countless herds along the Beaver and Prairie Dog Creeks. He killed a fine black-tailed deer the second day out and a turkey, the first game that was killed; this provided for a great feast. The Governor, however, took first prize by killing the most buffalo. Returning from this hunt, Mr. Holcomb and his friend, David Hefflebower, bached together on Hefflebower's place on Indian Creek, three and one-half miles west of Red Cloud. They hunted and trapped during the winter; had quite a variety of game, including buffalo hump, beaver tail, roasted turkey, etc., as the contents of their larder. The next spring Mr. Holcomb's sister, Mary (now Mrs. Arneson), came on from Chicago and took charge of the culinary department of his cabin, he having in the meantime erected a habitation on his place. The winter of 1871-72 he and Mr. Hefflebower went up the Republican on a hunt and came near freezing to death, but their knowledge of prairie navigation saved them. It was a surprise party to their friends and relatives when they returned, as a great many hunters lost their lives in the severe storm which commenced about the 15th of November. Mr. Holcomb made the raising of cattle and horses a speciality, and continued in that industry for several years, and finally sold off his cattle, farming implements, etc., rented his farm and bought the Holland House Livery Stable at Red Cloud, and has stocked it with horses mostly bred and raised by him on his farm. This is considered the best equipped and best conducted livery in the city. Mr. Holcomb has recently taken into partnership Mr. Anthony Arneson, his brother-in-law, and they are horsemen in every sense of the word, and reliable, pleasant men to deal with; their charges are reasonable, and it is their aim to please their patrons.

Himan Holdridge. The subject of this sketch was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., August, 1823, and is the second of nine children born to Dudley and Abigail (Page) Holdridge, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Vermont. His father spent his youth in his native State and New York, receiving a common-school education, and when a young man learned the

carpenter's trade. When he was twenty-four years of age he married Miss Abigail Page, and to them were born nine children, viz.: Hosea, Himan, Harry D., Henrietta, Hiram, Harlow, Horace (last heard of in California), Harriet, Harris, only two of whom (subject and Harlow) are now living. In 1834 his father moved from New York to Portage County, Ohio, and for a period of seven years cultivated the soil. At the end of that time he moved to Steuben County, Ind., remaining here until the outbreak of the war, when he joined the United States service, and died in the hospital of sickness contracted in the army. His wife died on the old homestead in Steuben County, Ind., in 1883. She was an active member of the Free-Will Baptist Church. The immediate subject of this sketch lived in New York until he was eleven years of age, and then accompanied his parents to Ohio, living at this place and in Indiana until he was twenty-five years of age, when he went to Sauk County, Wis. He had previously learned the carpenter's trade in Ohio, and after his removal to Wisconsin he worked at his trade in summer, teaching school in winter. In the spring of 1871 he came to Nebraska, and took up his homestead, which he has since well improved. In January, 1872, he received the appointment of postmaster of Scott, and has since held that office. This is said to have been the first postoffice established in this part of Webster County. He was one of the pioneers of this section, and has seen the development of all of Southwestern Nebraska. For a year after his arrival here he was compelled to draw all his provisions from Nebraska City, a distance of 160 miles, with an ox-team. In 1874 he was elected justice of the peace, and has held that office almost continuously for fifteen years. He is active in politics, votes the Republican ticket, and almost always serves as delegate to county conventions. Miss Emily M., daughter of Isaiah and Dolly (Atwood) Gilman, became his wife in 1851, and they became the parents of four children, viz.: Harry H. (a resident of Inavale), Mrs. Viola H. Luce (at home), Harlow J. (living at Denver, Colo.), and Mrs. Carrie M. Storey (living in Cowles, Neb.).

George B. Holland, proprietor of the Holland

House, Red Cloud, Neb., was born in New York, and there grew to manhood. He came to Red Cloud in 1878, and soon after engaged in the hotel business, at which he has achieved remarkable success.

Col. John S. Hoover, an old and highly honored citizen of Blue Hill, Neb., and vice president of the First National Bank of that place, was born in La Porte County, Ind., April 10, 1833, his parents being Samuel and Leann (Stinson) Hoover, who were born in North Carolina and Tennessee in 1810 and 1814, respectively. Frederick Hoover, the paternal grandfather, was also born in North Carolina, and the maternal grandfather, John Stinson, whose father's name was also John, was born in ——. Col. Hoover's parents were married in 1831, and had eleven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest. Nine of this family were sons, and eight of the family are now living—six sons and two daughters. The father, who was a lawyer by profession, died in 1860, but is still survived by his widow, who is now a resident of Hastings, Neb. Before John S. Hoover was a year old his parents moved to Newcastle, Henry County, Ind., and here the father served as county clerk for fourteen years, and also as probate judge. Young John was reared to manhood in this place, and while growing up learned the printer's trade, and in 1855, for a period of ten months, he published the Madison County Democrat, of Anderson, Ind. In 1856 he was employed as baggage-master on the Chicago & Air Line Railroad, but in the latter part of that year he gave up his position and removed to Decatur, Ill., where he was in the retail clock business for two years. He then went to Duquoin, Ill., where he followed the same business until the war broke out, and September 8, 1861, he entered the service of the Union army, enlisting in Company K, Thirty-first Illinois Regiment, with which he served until after the battle of Fort Donelson. He was then promoted to first lieutenant of his company, and after serving as such for some six or seven months, he was promoted to a captaincy, and was made aide-camp to Gen. John A. Logan, and served on his staff from that time until the close of the war,

a period of three years and four months. Prior to the capture of Fort Donelson he participated in the engagement of Belmont, and after it was over he was in the siege of Corinth, the battle of Thompson's Hill, Raymond, Jackson, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, the siege of Vicksburg, the Atlanta campaign, together with the siege and capture of that city, the battle of Jonesboro, Kennesaw Mountain and Bentonville. He received an honorable discharge at Cincinnati, Ohio, in the fall of 1865, after which he remained in that city about one year. In 1867 he returned to Henry County, Ind., and engaged in merchandising at Middletown, and on the 7th of November of that year was united in marriage to Miss Louisa F. Lynn, a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and a daughter of George and Ann (Alison) Hoover, whose native land was England. In 1870 Mr. Hoover removed to Newcastle, and for one year and a half was engaged in the boot and shoe business. He then, in 1872, became the proprietor of the Taylor House, the leading hotel of that place, and conducted it successfully until 1876. In that year he came to Nebraska and first located in Hastings, where for about two years he was engaged in the grain business. In 1878 he came to Blue Hill, becoming one of the earliest settlers of the place. Ever since locating here he has continued in the grain business, and his labors have met with good returns. He is one of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Blue Hill, and he is its present vice-president. In 1886 he laid out an addition to the town, which is known as Hoover's addition, and besides 100 town lots he is the owner of 900 acres of land in Webster County. The first wife of Col. Hoover died on the 23d of April, 1887, leaving three children: William G., Clara E. and Howard L. He married his second and present wife February 18, 1888, she being an elder sister of his first wife, her name being Lizzie A. Lynn. Col. Hoover is a member of the G. A. R. and Loyal Legion, and in his political views is a strong Republican, representing Webster, Franklin and Nuckolls Counties in the State Senate. He is a highly esteemed citizen and is well known.

Albert A. Horn, farmer and stock-raiser. He

whose name heads this brief sketch is one of Webster County's pioneers, and is an active and enterprising agriculturist, alive to all current issues, public-spirited and progressive in all matters tending to benefit the community. His life has been an active one, and by his own industry and intelligent management he has secured a substantial footing among the pioneers of Webster County. A native of the Buckeye State, he was born in Harrison County, March 4, 1838, being the eldest son of John W. and Hannah (Phillips) Horn, the former of Delaware and the latter born in Ohio, a daughter of Richard Phillips. Mr. Horn's father went to Ohio with his parents when he was six years of age, they being among the first settlers of Harrison County, and here he grew to manhood and helped subdue the wilderness. After starting out in life on his own account, he rented land and farmed in Ohio for a number of years. In 1861 he moved to Marion County, Iowa, took up a farm, which he improved and lived on for a number of years. His wife died in 1870, and in 1880 he came to Nebraska and settled in Nuckolls County, residing there until his death in 1885. Albert A. Horn grew to manhood in Ohio, and at the age of twenty-two years moved with his parents to Iowa. Early in 1862 he enlisted in Company K, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry; for three years served his country loyally and well, until he was honorably discharged at the close of the war, at Louisville, Ky., July, 1865; he enlisted as a private and was discharged as a sergeant. Among the principal engagements in which he participated are Shiloh, Corinth (first and second battles), the siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Iuka, siege and surrender of Atlanta. He was taken prisoner July 22, 1864, at Atlanta, Ga., and was in the Andersonville prison two months; was exchanged and rejoined his regiment near Atlanta in time to join Sherman on his memorable march to the sea. During his service he was wounded but once, receiving a slight wound in the face. At the close of the war he returned to Marion County, Iowa, and selected Miss Catharine Molesworth for his companion in life; they were married in Marion County, Iowa, September 25, 1865. Mrs. Horn was born in Henry County, Iowa, Sep-

tember 4, 1845, and came to Marion County with her parents in 1850, she and Mr. Horn have become the parents of five children, viz.: Maggie R., Mary E., Ethel N., Mattie M. and Elbert Harvey. Maggie R. died in Lucas County, Iowa, at the age of thirteen months. Mr. Horn came to Nebraska on September 10, 1872, and took up the homestead on which he now lives, which was then wild and uncultivated prairie, on which roamed numerous antelopes and many wolves. They were here the grasshopper year, and remember well the great Easter storm. In 1879 they moved to Nuckolls County, renting out his farm in this county and purchasing a farm of 160 and a small farm of twenty acres near Superior. After living in Nuckolls County three years, he moved back to his homestead, where he is now living. Afterward he purchased forty acres joining, and now owns 200 acres of fine land, nearly all fenced and cross-fenced, and most of it is under cultivation. Like the majority of substantial farmers of this section, he has good buildings, wind pumps, etc., besides a young grove and a thrifty young bearing orchard of choice fruits, and in addition a quantity of small fruit. Mary E. married Clarence Guy, February 17, 1889, and they make their home in this county. Ethel N. and Mattie M. are young ladies, and are very popular among their associates; they live at home, as does Elbert Harvey, a lad of fourteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Horn, Mary, Guy and Ethel N. are members of the Friends' Church.

Alfred C. Hosmer, editor of *The Chief*, Red Cloud, Neb. In looking through the histories of the business men of the county, we find that the majority of them either lived in early manhood, or else through boyhood, upon a farm. So it will seem that no fault can be found with the influence that early communion with Nature has upon the full years of manhood. Alfred C. Hosmer, the subject of this short sketch, has been found equipped and fully equal to the duties that have devolved upon him. The interests of Webster County have been identical with his since 1883, when he came here to live. Mr. Hosmer was born in Euclid, Ohio, February 4, 1854. He is a son of Luther and Irene (Cummings) Hosmer, the former a native

of Connecticut, and the latter of New York. They were the parents of twelve children, the subject of this sketch being the ninth in order of birth, nine of whom grew to maturity. Mrs. Hosmer died in Ohio, April 20, 1867, in her fifty-second year, and Mr. Hosmer in Michigan, March 7, 1890, at the age of seventy-seven. Grandfather Hosmer was born in Connecticut. The Hosmers were of German descent, and the Cummings were Yankees, of Irish descent. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, and at the age of twelve years entered the office of the Lorain County News, at Oberlin, Ohio, and served an apprenticeship in that office, then accepted a foremanship of the Bryan (Ohio) Press for one year. He next went to Clinton, Ill., where he served as foreman on the Clinton Public for eleven years. He then came west to Red Cloud, and purchased the Chief office—a Republican paper established in 1873. He then refitted the office, put in a Prouty power press (this was the first power press run by steam in the county) and added other facilities for doing good work. He employs several hands, and turns out a large amount of job printing. In directing the editorial policy of his paper, Mr. Hosmer has proved himself to be a man of judgment, as a result of which the circulation has been largely increased. The Chief is the oldest paper in the Republican Valley. In secret societies he belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of P. and the A. O. U. W. He helped found the K. of P. lodge at this place, and was the first past chancellor, and also the first past master workman of the A. O. U. W. While residing in Clinton, Ill., he was married to Miss Alice S. Morse, born in Kosciusko County, Ind., December 27, 1855, and two children have blessed their union: Harry Morton and Ethel. Mr. Hosmer is strictly temperate in his habits, neither drinks nor smokes, and has served as a member of the Republican State Central Committee of Nebraska. His paper has been in the advance in advocating all questions pertaining to the advancement of public interests in Red Cloud. It aided vigorously in securing water works and electric lights for the city, and in many other enterprises for the public good has been actively influential. Mr. Hosmer

has served as correspondent for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Chicago Inter-Ocean, Tribune and many other papers, and has been in the newspaper business for twenty-five years.

W. A. Howard, well known as a prosperous and well-to-do agriculturist of this county, was born in Indiana (Hamilton County) in 1850, being the third in a family of five children raised by John and Mary (Williams) Howard, the former born in Virginia and the latter in Indiana, in which latter State they were married and reared most of their children there. Their children were Joseph, Nancy C., Wesley A., John F. and Anna. The father was a farmer by occupation, and moved from Indiana to Minnesota, settling in Hennepin County, in 1856, when our subject was but six years old, and here he tilled the soil until his death, which occurred in 1862. He was a Republican in his political views, and took a deep interest in the welfare of the community in which he resided, and won the esteem and respect of all who knew him. His wife died in 1857. They both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The boyhood and early youth of our subject was spent in Minnesota, whither he had moved with his parents in his sixth year, but in 1864 he returned to his native State and farmed in Hancock County for a number of years. In 1875 he went to Illinois, remaining there but a short time, and then came to Webster County, Neb., and took up a homestead of 160 acres of raw prairie land, which he has now well improved, with a nice house and barn and one of the finest groves and orchards in the county, his being one of the best improved farms in the county. Here he is extensively engaged in stock-raising, breeding only the best grade of cattle, horses and hogs, making a specialty of Holstein cattle. Mr. Howard was married in Webster County, in 1878, to Miss Mary C. Finnie, daughter of Thomas F. Finnie, of this county, and six children have been given to them, namely: John A., Thomas, Emory E., Leonard, Frank and Effie E. Mr. Howard casts his vote with the Republican party, and takes considerable interest in local politics, as he does in all things for the good of the country. He has served on

the school board in District No. 35, and like most of the intelligent farmers of Nebraska belongs to the Alliance.

A. P. Howard. One of the enterprising and successful young men of this section is Mr. A. P. Howard, business manager of the R. A. Handy Lumber Yards at Red Cloud. He was born in Medina County, Ohio, in October, 1865, a son of H. A. and Harriett E. (Pierce) Howard, and at the age of eleven years came to Nebraska with his parents. He supplemented an excellent common-school education with an academic course at Franklin Academy, and after a short time spent on a farm, engaged in teaching the young idea, but not liking this occupation, upon finishing his term he gave it up and worked at his trade as a painter, and has done considerable work in Red Cloud. He discontinued painting after a while, and engaged as a cashier and book-keeper in the wholesale and retail packing house of G. W. Lindsey for some months, and then entered the employ of M. B. Edleman & Co., as yardman in their lumber business. Several months later, his merits being recognized, he was promoted to the office as book keeper, serving in that capacity for seven or eight months, when he accepted a position with the firm as manager of their yard. December 24, 1888, the firm sold out to R. A. Handy, for whom Mr. Howard conducted the business until February, 1889. He then accepted a position as auditor and claim agent for the well-known lumber firm of Howell, Jewett & Co., of Atchison, Kas., for whom he was on the road eight months, traveling in Colorado, etc. In September, 1889, he resigned this position and accepted that of manager of the R. A. Handy Lumber Yards at this place, which position he has filled very creditably ever since. Mr. Howard's father, H. A. Howard, was born in England, where he spent his childhood and early youth, at the age of sixteen coming to America, and locating in Summit County, Ohio, and there engaged in tilling the soil. Here he was married in December, 1864, to Miss Harriett E. Pierce, a highly accomplished lady. She was born in Ohio, and received an excellent education in the common schools, and at the college at Oberlin. She com-

menced teaching when she was sixteen years of age, and it was from her that our subject received his chief education. Mr. Howard enlisted in the late war as first lieutenant of the Forty-second Ohio Infantry (Garfield's regiment), and served for three years. He was in the battle of Cumberland Gap, charge at Chickasaw Bluffs (the Forty-second Ohio led the forlorn hope there), he had charge of the men who tried to cut the ditch at Vicksburg to turn the channel of the Mississippi, was also in the battles of Port Hudson, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, siege of Vicksburg, Red River expedition, and was at New Orleans under Banks. At the close of the war he returned to Ohio, where he remained until 1876, at that time coming to Red Cloud and taking up a homestead near this place, where he and family have since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Howard are the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch being the eldest. Mrs. Howard is a lady of high intelligence, and is very popular. Mr. Howard, Sr., belongs to the G. A. R. A. P. Howard is K. R. S. of the K. of P., and is first lieutenant of the Sons of Veterans. He is a member of the head lodge of the M. W. A., and belongs to the A. O. U. W. Besides, he is also secretary and treasurer of the Building and Loan Association of Geneva, N. Y. In June, 1890, he was married to Miss Minnie Beck, of Otis, Colo., and has built a handsome house in this place. He has the entire respect and confidence of all his acquaintances, and is in every respect a gentleman.

John W. Hudson, farmer and stockman, Blue Hill, Neb. This enterprising and industrious agriculturist was born in the Blue Grass State, his birth occurring in Scott County in 1845, and it was but natural, perhaps, that he should choose farming as his calling through life, for his father and grandfather before him were tillers of the soil. He received his education in the schools of Vermilion and Logan Counties, Ill., and in 1864 he enlisted from the last-named county in Company D, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, for three months. He was under Gen. Sigel, and was principally on garrison duty. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., in 1864, and

returned to Logan County, where he engaged in farming. He was married in Lincoln County, of that State, in 1865, to Miss Narcissus Johnson, a native of Kentucky, and the daughter of Turner and Judith Johnson, also of that State. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson moved to Illinois at an early day, and the father's death occurred in Indiana. The mother resides with her son-in-law, our subject. Mr. Hudson came to Nebraska in 1874, purchased a homestead of 160 acres on Section 7, in 1875, and now has all his land in a good state of cultivation. He votes with the Republican party, and has been constable of the township. He is a member of the John A. Logan Post No. 145, at Blue Hill, and he and Mrs. Hudson are members of the Christian Church in their neighborhood. To their marriage were born three children: Charley, Theodore and James. Mr. Hudson has passed through the grasshopper sieges of 1874 and 1875, lost his last horse in the first year, and had but five dollars in money. As might be supposed, everything looked blue to him, but he had the determination to persevere, and is now one of the prosperous farmers of the township. He aids in all landable enterprises, and is deeply interested in educational matters. He assisted in organizing his school district, and is determined to give his children every opportunity for obtaining an education. Mr. Hudson was the eldest of six children born to John and Lorana (Bridle) Hudson, natives of Kentucky. The father tilled the soil in his native State for some time, and at an early day moved to Illinois, and to Nebraska in 1874. He homesteaded 160 acres in 1875, and now resides on this farm, in Webster County. The grandmother of our subject is still living, and makes her home with his father.

George W. Hummel, a prominent farmer and minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, residing on the northwest quarter of Section 18, Line Township, was born June 27, 1849, in Erie County, N. Y., a son of George and Catharine (Snyder) Hummel, both natives of Germany. His parents moved to Louisa County, Iowa, in 1856, where the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood, and received an education in the common schools of

that county. In June, 1872, he immigrated with his brother, Fred, to this county, settling on his present farm of 160 acres. At his odd moments he began studying for the ministry. He had always been an earnest worker in his church, and his only thoughts were to be a minister. September 9, 1883, he was ordained a deacon by Isaac W. Wiley, the bishop at Lincoln, this State. After several years of close study he was ordained an elder, September 25, 1887, in Lincoln, by John F. Hurst, then a bishop of Nebraska. Since he has entered on his ministerial career, he has organized several classes of his denomination, that on Penney Creek being the oldest, he being a charter member; and Hummel's Appointment, the first Sabbath school in Red Cloud. He has preached at Walnut Creek, Inavale, New Virginia, Cowles, Elm Creek, Batin, Amboy, Pleasant Hill, Ash Creek, Penney Creek, and has now a circuit including Salem, Highland, Pleasant Grove, Red School-house, Mount Hope, Oriole, Kas. He is a preacher of this State, and a prominent and influential citizen. His experiences as a minister have been varied, and he has endured all the ups and downs of a pioneer settler. He was married on December 23, 1867, to Miss Lottie A. White, daughter of James and Sarah M. (Tompkins) White, natives of New Jersey. She was born in Essex County, N. J., January 21, 1850. This union has been blessed with seven children, all living, viz.: Eva, Nettie, Carrie, Ida, Emma, Edgar and Minnie. In his political views Mr. Hummel is a stanch Republican, and takes an active interest in the politics of his county. In 1887 he was elected supervisor, and served for three years, and was also elected chairman of the board of supervisors for two years. In 1889 he was the Republican candidate for the office of county treasurer. He was defeated, but made more friends by his defeat than did his successful opponent. Mr. Hummel belongs to Red Cloud Lodge No. 64, I. O. O. F. He, with his entire family, are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Hummel's Appointment. He is recognized as one of the energetic and enterprising citizens of the county.

Charles Hunter, farmer and stock-raiser, Webster County, Neb., residing on Section 28-2-12.

Among the many prominent citizens of Webster County whose names appear in this work, none are more worthy of mention than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, March 12, 1851. His father, John Hunter, was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, on December 3, 1821. Here he received a common-school education, and at the age of eighteen embarked in life for himself. In 1851 he was married to Miss Lydia P. Molton, daughter of Alonzo and Priscilla Molton, both natives of Maine, and by this union became the father of four children, viz.: Charles (the subject of this sketch), Eugene (residing at Riverton, Neb.), Flora (now Mrs. Van Note, of Hamilton, Mo.) and Sulie (now Mrs. Baker, of Tacoma, Wash. Mr. Hunter removed from Ohio to La Fayette County, Wis., and in 1861 entered the United States service, in Company E, Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Whittlesey, commander. While on detachment duty in Missouri, he was wounded in his left leg and sent to the hospital. When again ready for service, he was sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, to guard prisoners, and was discharged in September, 1864. The same month he re-enlisted, and served all through the Atlanta campaign. He received his discharge at Springfield, Ill., in October, 1865. In 1869 he removed from Wisconsin to Caldwell County, Mo., where he engaged in farming, remaining there until 1889 when he removed to Norton County, Kas., where he is at present residing. His wife died in Riverton, Neb., in March, 1889. Mr. Hunter is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, belongs to the G. A. R., and in his political views sides with the Republican party. Charles Hunter, the immediate subject of this sketch, received a common-school education in Wisconsin, and at the age of eighteen years commenced for himself as a farmer. In June, 1872, he came to Webster County, Neb., and took up a homestead of 160 acres of land, and the following year timber-claimed another 160 acres, making a splendid farm of 320 acres, all of which is now well improved, with a nice comfortable dwelling, barns, out-buildings, fruit and forest trees, etc. By farming in the

summer and teaching school in winters, he was enabled to get a good start in the new State, and has now accumulated a good property, and gained for himself an honored place in the community in which he lives. His farm is well stocked with cattle, horses and hogs, and aside from his farming interests, he deals extensively in grain and stock. During the past year he shipped 100 cars of stock from Inavale, and seventy-five cars from Riverton. He was married in 1872 to Miss Josephine, daughter of John and Anna (Darby) Smith, of Connecticut, and by this union has three children, viz.: Mabel, Ralph and Daisy. Mr. Hunter has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, and is perfectly satisfied to make this his permanent home. He is an active Republican, politically, and was one of the first supervisors in this county. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Hunter is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Hugh B. Hunter, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. Among the many prominent and substantial farmers and stock-raisers of Webster County, none are more deserving of conspicuous mention than Mr. Hunter. He is a native of Illinois, born in Lake County, July 12, 1851, the sixth of twelve children born to Joseph and Rebecca (George) Hunter. Joseph was a farmer by occupation, and carried on that calling on the Wisconsin Central Railway, in Illinois, for a number of years, subsequently moving to Wisconsin and settling in Kenosha County, where he has been farming ever since. He is now a hale and hearty old gentleman of seventy, and his wife is a few years younger, and they are cared for by a younger son, who attends to the farm. Of their twelve children, nine grew to maturity, and four live in Nebraska, all but one of the four living in Webster County. Hugh B. Hunter was reared in Illinois and Wisconsin, receiving a liberal high-school education. In the fall of 1879 he came to Nebraska and located in Webster County, where he purchased an improved farm, to which he has since added until he now owns 740 acres of bottom land on the Republican River, all lying in one body. This he has under cultivation, pasture and meadow,

having sixty acres in tame grasses, and a fence surrounding the whole body, and cross-fenced into convenient fields. He has a neat and commodious residence, large barn, sheds, stock-scales, wind pump, and all conveniences for farm life. Twenty-five acres of his land he has devoted to a grove, and has planted it in cottonwood, walnuts, and box elders, and besides his farming property he is the owner of some vacant lots in Guide Rock. On coming here he was possessed of some means, but the bulk of his property, say four-fifths, was made right here on the farm. During his residence here, Mr. Hunter has been extensively engaged in feeding and dealing in cattle and hogs. He feeds and ships on an average of three cars of cattle annually, and turns off from \$1,200 to \$1,600 worth of hogs of his own raising each year. He also devotes considerable attention to raising horses, turning off over \$1,000 worth each year. He has some excellent high grade horses, and is breeding all the time. The spring following his arrival in this county Mr. Hunter paid a visit to the East, and on his return he was accompanied by his bride, whom he had married in Berrien County, Mich., February 8, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are the proud parents of three interesting little children: Lolo B., Lloyd H. and George E. Mrs. Hunter was formerly Miss Lorana Harris, daughter of David Harris, and she was born, reared, educated and married in Berrien County, Mich. Both she and her husband are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and worship at the Guide Rock Church of that denomination, and are highly respected and esteemed by all in the community. Mr. Hunter is one of the few farmers and stock-men of the county who has no indebtedness whatever, and his good fortune and prosperity are simply the result of good management.

M. C. Jackson, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. Mr. Jackson owes his nativity to Randolph County, N. C., where his birth occurred in 1826, but he emigrated to Indiana with his mother in 1834, and there grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education. His parents, Daniel and Amy (Otwell) Jackson, were both natives of North Carolina. M. C. Jackson remained in Indiana un-

til 1859, when he came to Iowa, and later went to Pike's Peak, where he spent the summer of 1860. In the fall of that year he returned to the east, or rather to Iowa, where he remained until the fall of 1873, and then came to Webster County, Neb., where he has since resided. He settled on his present farm, consisting of 160 acres, and is now numbered among the prominent farmers of the county. He keeps a good grade of stock of all kinds, and displays excellent practical judgment in the management of his estate. He was married to Miss Annie M. Brooks, the daughter of Thomas and Susannah (Kimbrough) Brooks, natives of North Carolina and New Jersey, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Jackson have been born the following children: Melissa J. (born January 19, 1850), Sarah A. (born September 11, 1856), Thomas S. (born November 14, 1857, now deceased), Charles H. (born January 29, 1859), Hannah S. (born February 23, 1862), William S. (born February 27, 1865), Edler L. (born August 15, 1866), Alfred C. (born December 23, 1870), Amy F. (born September 6, 1872), Clara M. (born May 26, 1876, now deceased) and Minnie M. (born February 7, 1878). Mr. Jackson came to Webster County while it was yet in its infancy, and made for himself a good, comfortable home. He has a fine young orchard, also a good grove, and is a man who merits the esteem of all. He was one of the earliest supporters of the Republican party, having voted for John P. Hale in the forties. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and also of the Farmers' Alliance. In their religious views the family are Quakers, and the church that they attend, which is a few miles distant, is composed of thirty or forty members. Mr. Jackson's daughter, Melissa, married James C. Wilson, of Iowa, who was one of the first white children born in Muscatine County; Sarah Alice married John Zackery, of Tennessee; Charles married Amy Brubaker, of Ohio; Hannah S. married Wilber Brubaker—all reside in Pleasant Hill Township.

W. E. Jackson. The subject of this sketch has been so closely connected with Red Cloud and its interests from the start that it is impossible to give a true history of the place without a prominent

mention of his name. A brief outline of his life will be read with interest. He was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, March 23, 1827. When he was thirteen years of age his parents removed to Perry County, same State, and there our subject was reared to manhood, assisting his father in his farm labors, and attending the common schools. He remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when, the Mexican War breaking out, he enlisted, May 29, 1846, in Company H, Third Ohio Infantry, under S. R. Curtis and Zaek Taylor, and after serving his country for thirteen months, was mustered out June 22, 1847. He now draws a pension. After receiving his discharge, he returned to his home in Perry County, Ohio, and was employed by Fink & Ditto, merchants, as clerk, remaining with them for three years. January 7, 1851, witnessed his marriage to Miss Julia A. Miner, who was born in Somerset, Ohio, January 5, 1834, and there grew to maturity, receiving a very good education. In the spring of the same year of their marriage they moved to Allamakee County, Iowa, where Mr. Jackson was engaged in dealing in stock and farming until 1870, at which time they came to Nebraska and located in Red Cloud. Mrs. Jackson was the first white woman to make her home in the place, and came to Red Cloud when there wasn't a board in the county, nor a furrow plowed. Mr. Jackson brought a load of pine flooring from Iowa for his own use, which was the first floor in the neighborhood around Red Cloud. When they first came to this place they lived in a stockade sixty-four feet square, with a row of houses on each side with loop holes for defense, and a court in the center. Mr. Jackson's family then comprised himself and wife, a sister of his wife (since married to James Le Due, now living in Northern Oregon) and two daughters. Upon his arrival here, he homesteaded 160 acres of land where part of the town now stands, of which he sold about thirty acres to the railroad company. The Catholic Church is upon his land. He has since purchased considerable property. There have been six children born to his union, namely: Carrie M. (now the wife of G. M. Taylor, of Sheridan County, Kas.), Margaret (wife of J. Berinzen,

of Pawnee County, Neb.), William C. (residing in Red Cloud), and three who died in infancy. Mr. W. E. Jackson is a son of John J. and Sarah (Ijams) Jackson. His father was born in Erie County, Pa., February 7, 1792, and grew to manhood in his native State. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and served on the lakes under Commodore Perry, and was in the battle in which the Commodore sent the famous message: "We have met the enemy and they are ours." He was quartermaster-sergeant. He early emigrated to Ohio, settling in Fairfield County, where he was a pioneer, and resided there until 1840, when he moved to Somerset, Perry County, and engaged in agricultural pursuits at that place until his death, September 26, 1876. The mother of W. E. died in 1830, leaving a family of eight children—four sons and four daughters, the subject of this sketch being next to the youngest. Upon her death-bed she became a convert to the Roman Catholic faith. Her husband afterward married Miss Mary C. Grate, of Columbus, Ohio, a devout Catholic, and he afterward became a convert to that faith. This latter union resulted in the birth of six children, three of whom survive; three children of the first marriage also survive. Mrs. Jackson died in 1870. Grandfather Lyman Jackson was born in England in 1756, and emigrated to the colonies while young, subsequently marrying. He was a soldier and pensioner of the Revolutionary War, and made his home in Erie County, Pa. He died March 20, 1835. His wife was born February 25, 1765, and died December 2, 1841. Mrs. W. E. Jackson was a daughter of James and Belle (McKeever) Miner, the former born in County Cavin, Ireland. He came to America, and was married at Albany, N. Y. In 1850 he started for California, and after mining in that State for five years, died. He was accompanied by his son, who still lives at Yreka, Cal., a prosperous merchant. Mrs. Miner was born in Dublin, Ireland, and died in Iowa in 1864. She was the mother of six children, all of whom grew to maturity. Mrs. Jackson was the eldest daughter. Her father's sister, Mary, married John Sheridan, and by him became the mother of a son—Philip, now the famous Gen. Phil.

Sheridan, thus making Mrs. W. E. Jackson a full cousin of the distinguished general. Mr. W. E. Jackson served in the Federal army during the late war, enlisting in Company B, Twenty-seventh Iowa, January 4, 1864, and was mustered out June 15, 1865. He was engaged in the battles of Ditch Bayou, Ark., on June 6, 1864; Tupelo, Miss., July 14, 1864; Old Town Creek, Miss., July 15, 1864; Nashville, December 15, 1864, and Cumberland Heights, December 16, 1864. While erecting batteries at Nashville, on June 11, 1864, he was quite severely injured. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are strict Roman Catholics, and are very intelligent people.

William James, a well known pioneer of Webster County, was born in Randolph County, Ill., in 1846, the sixth in a family of eleven children born to the union of Robert and Elizabeth James. His parents were both born in Ireland, and while still very young came to this country, locating at Philadelphia, Pa., where they were afterward married. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to Illinois and settled on a farm in Randolph, being among the earliest settlers in that county, and here they followed agricultural pursuits very successfully for many years, until 1882, when the father's death occurred. The mother is still living, and resides on the old homestead in Illinois with some of her younger children, who have remained single. The father was a staunch Republican, and took an active interest in all things for the good of the community, and both he and wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and youth in Illinois, attending school, and was reared to farm labor. In 1872, in company with his brothers, Adam and Alex., he came to Webster County and located 160 acres of land in Section 12, Town 4, Range 10, on which he now lives, being engaged extensively in raising horses, cattle and hogs. Here he "bached" for five years, and then, in 1877, he returned to Illinois, and was united in marriage to Miss Jennie M. Campbell, daughter of Harvey Campbell, of Randolph County, Ill., who accompanied him to his Nebraska home. They are now the parents of two children—Mary E. and William C. Both Mr.

and Mrs. James are earnest members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. James affiliates with the Republican party in his political views, taking quite a deep interest in political matters, as well as in all matters for the good of the community. Since locating here, Mr. James has purchased eighty acres of fine land, which, with his original tract, make him the owner of 240 acres of good land, all of which is highly improved, with a good bearing orchard, and a thriving young grove. He also has a small grove of native trees on his place. Mr. James has been very successful since becoming identified with this State, and is well satisfied to make it his permanent home. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. Mr. James resided in Blue Hill in 1882, and again in 1885-86.

Alex. James, another of the prominent and substantial farmers of Webster County, was born in Randolph County, Ill., in 1849, and is the seventh child in a family of eleven children born to the marriage of Robert and Elizabeth (Russell) James, both natives of Ireland. They were married at Philadelphia, Pa., and immediately afterward settled in Randolph County, Ill., where they raised their family, viz.: Eliza, Robert, Anna, Adam, Mary, William, Alex., Hugh, Samuel, Esther and John. They belonged to the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The father voted the Republican ticket, and was a public-spirited man, interested in all things for the good of the community. He was a successful farmer, and died in Illinois in 1883. The mother is still living on the farm in Illinois, some of her children living with her. Alex., William and Adam James all immigrated to Webster County in the spring of 1873, and located homes, but Adam has since moved to Kansas. Alex. James first took up 160 acres of land, and has since added to this until he is now the owner of 240 acres of good land, and has one of the finest places in the county. He was married in Nebraska, in 1877, to Miss Jemima Simpson, daughter of — Simpson, of Oak Creek Township, by whom he is the father of six children, viz.: John, Edward, Alvin, Samuel, Lee R. and Lillie. Mrs. James is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. James came here in the early days when the prairies abounded with

buffalo, antelope and smaller game, and he has often indulged in the sport of hunting these wild animals. When he first located he got his mail at New Grundy, on Oak Creek, but he now gets it at Blue Hill. He has one of the finest orchards in the county, and farms 240 acres of land, and devotes himself to raising grain, cattle, horses and hogs. He is Republican in his political views, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

W. T. Johnson, M. D., who occupies a position of prominence in the medical affairs of Webster County, was ushered into the world on April 21, 1860, in Fulton County, Ill., and there grew to manhood. His literary education was received at Champaign, Ill., and at Valparaiso, Ind. At the age of twenty years he commenced the study of medicine under a preceptor at Champaign, and at the end of three years entered the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, from which, in 1885, he received the degree of M. D. The same year he came to Cowles, and immediately began the practice of his profession, his career having resulted in eminent success, and although still a young man he has already established a reputation and built up a practice of which many an older man might well be proud. He is the owner of a section of fine land. Dr. Johnson was married, in 1888, to Miss Susie Arnold. His parents were T. J. and Sarah (Scott) Johnson. Dr. Johnson belongs to the A. F. & A. M.

Sturgeon Kershner, another of the early settlers of Glenwood Township, Webster County, Neb., and one of the representative farmers of the same, owes his nativity to Linn County, Iowa, where he was born January 22, 1846. His parents, Ferdinand and Elizabeth (Rogers) Kershner, were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father came to America when seven years of age, and settled in Iowa while it was still a Territory. He was married in Linn County, Iowa, and afterward made that county his home. Sturgeon Kershner assisted his father on the farm, received his education in the schools of Linn County, and was married in that county in 1865 to Miss Elvira Fetz, who was born in the

same county. Their union was blessed by the birth of one child, Grant F., who is married and resides in Glenwood Township. Mrs. Kershner's death occurred in Iowa in 1870. Mr. Kershner emigrated to Nebraska in 1874 and homesteaded 160 acres on Section 26, Glenwood Township, Webster County. In the spring of 1877 he erected a good frame house, the best then in the township, and he has since made many other improvements on his farm quite as prominent. He was married in Webster County, Neb., in January, 1876, to Miss Amanda A. Milner, a native of Van Buren County, Iowa, and the daughter of J. T. and Harriet (Millsbaugh) Milner, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of New York. Her parents were married in Ohio, emigrated to Iowa and settled in Van Buren County in 1853. In 1874 the father came to Nebraska and settled in Webster County. He is still living, but the mother died in Iowa in 1870. After his marriage, Mr. Kershner settled on his present farm, and is now the owner of 320 acres of excellent land. He has opened up all but about forty or fifty acres, and in connection with his farming interest is engaged in raising a good grade of cattle and sheep (Cotswold). He is interested in politics, and his vote is cast with the Prohibition party. He assisted in organizing the school district, and he is quite active in school matters. He is a member of Prairie Gem Alliance No. 1319, and of Prairie Gem Lodge No. 7, I. O. G. T. Mr. and Mrs. Kershner are members of the Union Baptist Church. To their marriage have been born these children: Genie, Pearl, Flora, Guy, Roland (who died in infancy), Hattie and Clarice. Mr. Kershner has always taken a deep interest in the affairs of the county and is one of its best citizens.

Felix A. Killough, of Mount Clare, Webster County, was born in Buchanan County, Mo., in 1849. The youngest son of eight children, four of whom are still living, born to Thomas D. and Martha (Bloyd) Killough, the former born in South Carolina, March 4, 1803, and the latter in Kentucky. His father was a farmer by occupation and was married in Kentucky, soon after going to Iowa, where he lived for some time. In 1856 the

family moved to Kansas, and there made their home. In 1874 the father came to Webster County, and took up a claim of 160 acres of choice land in Stillwater Township; he died in that county July 29, 1879, at the home of Felix A., his wife having passed from this life in Missouri in 1851. They were both church members. Mr. Killough was a Republican in his political views, and in 1861 was in the Missouri State Guards. Of the eight children, Carvalho O. G., Eridus M. E., Rosala and Felix A. are still living; Meipsis was killed in the army, and Matina, Serena and Rhoda are deceased. Our subject's school days were spent in Doniphan County, Kas. In 1868 he started out in life for himself as a herder on the Western frontier, and followed that occupation for five years. He was united in marriage, in 1875, in Kansas, to Miss Mary A. Richardson, of Brown County, Kas., daughter of Joseph and Mary A. Richardson, from Northumberland County, England. Miss Killough was a native of Stamfordham, that country, and came to America when sixteen years old. On September 1, 1875, Mr. Killough came to Webster County, and took up a homestead of 160 acres of good land (northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 3, Range 9), on which he settled and commenced improving. He now owns 320 acres of land, all well improved, and is very successfully engaged in farming and fruit and stock-raising. Upon locating here they were in poor circumstances, and the new country was not especially attractive. A dug-out, which they were first enabled to build, caved in the next spring, but their new home, a sod house, served as a dwelling until they were able to erect a frame. They are comfortably fixed, and, surrounded by an abundance of fruit—apples, pears, cherries, apricots, etc.—and plenty of wood for fuel, grown themselves on this once prairie farm, are satisfied with their delightful and cheery home. Mr. and Mrs. Killough are the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living, viz.: Thomas, Joseph, Mary (deceased), Anna, Felix, Rose, James and Samuel. They both belong to the Church of Christ and are highly esteemed by their neighbors and friends. Mr. Killough votes with the Republican party, and

has served on the school board. He belongs to the Alliance.

George W. Knight, postmaster and druggist, at Inavale, Neb., was born May 5, 1834, in Canada. David D. Knight, his father, was born in Maryland, where he spent his boyhood days, and received a limited education. While very young he started out in life for himself. He settled in Canada about 1830, and engaged in farming. Here he married Miss Lavina Sage, a native of Canada, and remained here for fifteen years. He then moved to St. Joseph County, Mich., where he has made his home ever since. He is now eighty-eight years of age, and his excellent wife is seventy-eight. They have lived a long and useful life, and some years since celebrated their fiftieth anniversary. The fruits of their married life are seven children, viz.: George W. (the subject of this sketch), Mrs. Kate S. Loomis (of La Porte County, Ind.), Mrs. Sarah Stage (living at Paynesville, Ohio), Charles H. (who died of fever, in the army, at Port Hudson, La.), Annie E. (an artist, residing in Michigan), Hiram C. (a farmer, in Cass County, Mich.), and Mrs. Minnie Holmes (of Morris, Ill.). George W. Knight was reared in Canada and Michigan, and at the early age of seventeen engaged as a farm hand and clerk. He finally acquired the trade of mechanical engineer, which he followed on the railroads and steamboats until 1861, when he left home and friends and enlisted as a three months man in the First Minnesota Infantry. At the end of three months he enlisted (in September, 1861) in Company E, Third Minnesota Infantry, and served until the close of the war, first as private, and later in different capacities up to captain. He participated in all the movements of his regiment. At Murfreesboro he was taken prisoner; but was paroled in a few days and sent to St. Louis, and from there up into Minnesota, where he participated in the Indian war of that State, having charge of a company, and took part in the capture of the Indians at Wood Lake. From thence he returned to the South, and was with his regiment at Vicksburg, Little Rock, battle at Fitzhugh's woods, and many others of lesser importance. He was discharged at Fort Snelling, Minn., in Sep-

tember, 1865, and returned to Michigan, where he engaged in tilling the soil for six years. In 1859 he was married to Miss Emiline B. Ives, a resident of Franklin County, N. Y., by whom he is the father of four children, viz.: Mrs. Fanny L. Turkington (of Alma, Neb.), Uly G. (a printer, of Red Cloud, Neb.), Grace L. (who died at the age of seven years) and Maud M. (living at home). In July, 1871, Mr. Knight came to Webster County, Neb., and took as a homestead the southeast quarter of Section 34, Township 2, Range 12, now adjoining the village of Inavale. This place he has improved, and carries on farming operations aside from his other interests. In politics he is an active Republican, and frequently attends as delegate both county, district and State conventions, but has never aspired to office. In secret societies he is a Mason, affiliating with Charity Lodge No. 53, Red Cloud, Neb., also Garfield Post No. 80, G. A. R., Red Cloud, of which he is senior vice-commander. Both he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Inavale, and both take an active interest in all religious work. Mrs. Knight is a member of the Women's Relief Corps, also a charter member of the Garfield Relief Corps, in which she has twice served as president, and is one of the officers of the department of Nebraska Women's Relief Corps. She was a delegate to the National Encampment at San Francisco, Cal., and Milwaukee, Wis. She is also an active worker in the Sunday-school. Mr. Knight located the third post-office in Webster County, and has been postmaster at Inavale continuously for seventeen years. He has been in the drug business for about three years, and is a registered pharmacist of Nebraska.

William P. Kuehn, farmer and stock-raiser, Line Township, Neb. In recording the names of prominent men of Webster County, that of William P. Kuehn, an energetic young farmer of Line Township, should be given prominent mention. He was born in Louisa County, Iowa, July 28, 1862, a son of Albert and Henrietta (Stokes) Kuehn, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1858, landing in New York, and going directly to New Jersey. Here they remained but a short time and then went to Louisa County, Iowa, where

they resided for a period of twenty years, the father being successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising. They reared there three children: Carl, Franklin and William P., all now living in this county. The subject of this sketch received a good education in the common schools of his native county. In 1878 he accompanied his parents to this locality. They settled on 740 acres of choice land, and have been engaged in farming and stock-raising ever since with varied success, and are now among the solid farmers and citizens of the community. William P. Kuehn was married April 4, 1889, to Miss Hannah Alma Spry, daughter of Herman Spry, a native of Ohio. She was born in Richland County, Wis., August 22, 1862. Both he and wife are church members, he worshipping at the Lutheran, and she at the Baptist Church, at Red Cloud. Mr. Kuehn is a Democrat in his political views. He has held office for the past seven years, and is now serving as assessor, constable and school director. He favors the anti-monopolist movement. Although young in years, Mr. Kuehn has already become one of the leading men in his township. He is enterprising and energetic, and is always ready to assist in any movement tending to the advancement of the public welfare.

Barney Kuhn, farmer and stock-raiser, Webster County, Neb., lives on Section 22, Town 4, Range 10, Potsdam Township. Originally from Germany, he was born in Prussia in 1830, the third in a family of five children born to Joseph and Justena (Kluth) Kuhn, both of whom were Prussians by birth. Their children were named as follows: Catherine, Frank, Barney (the subject of this sketch), John and Ida. The father died in his native land, but the mother is now living in Webster County, Neb. Barney Kuhn's young days were spent in the old country, where he received a good education, and in 1871 he came to the United States and worked in the pineries of Wisconsin, subsequently going to Chicago, where he worked for some time, then to Memphis, Tenn., and later to Arkansas. After a time he returned to Wisconsin, and in 1874 came to Webster County, Neb., and took up 320 acres of land, which he immedi-

ately set about improving, and now has it all under cultivation, and owns one of the finest farms in the county. He was united in marriage in 1881 to Miss Augusta Jaeger, by whom he has five children: Emil, Frank, Anna, Barney and Bertha. Mr. Kuhn's brother, John, also emigrated to this country, and is now settled in Webster County. The subject of this sketch is cultivating 165 acres of land, has 440 acres in use, and is quite extensively engaged in raising grain and stock, being one of the largest farmers and stockmen in this part of the county. He makes a specialty of Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Kuhn came to this county in the early days of its history, his nearest trading point being Hastings, and has seen the entire growth and development of this section. As a result of his honest hard work and good management, Mr. Kuhn has been very successful since coming here; he likes the country and expects to make it his home. In his political views, Mr. Kuhn affiliates with the Democratic party, and takes a deep interest in local politics, serving as township supervisor in 1886. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance.

William C. Laird. The Laird brothers have been so closely connected with the growth and prosperity of Webster County that it would be almost impossible to write a history of this locality without mentioning their names. The first of the family to make a settlement was James, who came here in November, 1870, and entered a homestead in Section 2. He was followed, May 1, 1871, by his three brothers: William, Paschal and Robert. William entered a homestead of 160 acres in Oak Creek—the southeast quarter of Section 2, Town 4, Range 9; Paschal settled on a quarter of Section 14, Town 4, Range 9, and Robert homesteaded the land on which he now lives, on Section 2, Town 4, Range 9. The parents of these brothers were Samuel and Elizabeth (Clingan) Laird, and both were born in Pennsylvania. The father was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in the "Keystone State" until 1849, when he moved to Illinois, settling in Stephenson County, continuing his farming operations until his death, which occurred in 1868, just two years after the death of his wife.

They were both members of the Presbyterian Church. To their marriage were born six children, namely: Mary, Thomas, William, Robert, James and Paschal. William Laird was born in Louisburg, Pa., in 1845, and, although a native of the "Keystone State," remembers very little about the land of his birth, as his parents moved from that State to Illinois when he was but four years of age. Here he spent his boyhood and early youth assisting his father on the farm. At the age of fifteen, upon choosing an occupation in life, it was but natural that he should select farming, as he was born and raised on a farm, as was his father before him. Accordingly he entered upon his chosen occupation in Stephenson County, Ill., remaining here until 1871, when, thinking that the far west offered greater attractions for energetic and industrious young men, he decided to try his fortunes on the prairies of Nebraska. In 1871 he came to this county, selected his land, and in the fall of the same year he returned to Stephenson County, Ill., and was married to Miss Margaret Murdaugh, daughter of James Murdaugh, a native of Illinois, born in Stephenson County in 1845. Immediately after his marriage he brought his young bride to the pioneer home, when they began to make a home for themselves, and, although they have met with the usual drawbacks incident to the settlement of a new country—hard storms, etc.—they have overcome all these disadvantages, and are now reaping their reward, having a fine farm as the result of their labor, and being classed among the substantial farmers of Webster County. Mr. Laird is extensively engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Laird have been born six children, all living and at home with their parents, viz.: Bessie (born in 1874), Laura (born in 1876), Lule (born in 1878), Louis (born in 1880), Claud (born in 1883) and Ray (born in 1885). Mr. Laird has always been a staunch Republican, and has taken an active part in the political affairs of the communities in which he resided. In 1862 he served as judge of election, has served as school director and supervisor, and ever since the organization of the district has held the office of collector. Mr. Laird is a Good Tem-

plar, and belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. Both he and wife are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church.

Robert C. Laird, farmer and stock-raiser, Oak Creek Township, Webster County, Neb. The subject of this sketch is one of the well-known early settlers of Webster County. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1847 [for parentage see sketch of William Laird, immediately preceding], but when he was two years old he was brought by his parents to Stephenson County, Ill., where he grew to manhood, and at the age of twenty-four years accompanied his brother William to Nebraska, and took up the land on which he now lives, which was then wild, unbroken prairie. In 1882 he was united in marriage to Miss Ellen, daughter of William Leach, of the same county and township, by whom he has one child, Bruce, born July 21, 1889. In his political views Mr. Laird affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local politics. He is as well acquainted with Clay and Adams Counties as he is with Webster County, and has seen the entire growth and improvement of this part of the State from the start. When he first came to Nebraska there was an abundance of wild game of all kinds roaming the prairies, and the nearest trading point was Beatrice, but like many other pioneers he has surmounted the obstacles peculiar to all new countries, and is now the owner of 160 acres of valuable farming land, with good improvements, a fine grove, etc., and is a thriving, well-to-do citizen. He is engaged to a large extent in raising cattle, horses and hogs. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

James R. Laird is a native of Illinois, born in Stephenson County in 1850, the fifth child born to Samuel and Elizabeth (Clingan) Laird [for parentage see sketch of William Laird]. He was reared to farm labor, receiving a good education in the common schools of his native county, and at the age of eighteen engaged in teaching school. In November, 1870, he acted on Horace Greeley's advice, and came to Nebraska, settling on the north half of Section 2, and immediately commenced the improvement of the place. Mr. Laird was married in 1880 to Miss Mary Murdaugh,

daughter of James Murdaugh, born in Stephenson County, Ill., in 1855, and five children have blessed this union, namely: Jessie R. (born May 16, 1882), Olive L. (born December 20, 1883), Hugh M. (born December 29, 1885), Thomas C. (born in October, 1887) and Wallace R. (born August 29, 1889). As Mr. Laird's farm is located in the corner of Clay, Webster, Adams and Nuckolls Counties, he has watched the development of the four named counties from the start. Like the other early settlers of this section, he experienced many hardships, but in the main has always been very successful. He is now the fortunate owner of 240 acres of choice land, all well improved with good buildings, a fine orchard and a nice young grove. Mr. Laird is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is now serving as secretary of that order. He takes a deep interest in politics, votes with the Republican party, and has held the offices of town clerk and assessor, and has served on the school board. He is one of the prominent and substantial farmers of Webster County.

Paschal L. Laird is the youngest child born to Samuel and Elizabeth (Clingan) Laird, and first saw the light in Stephenson County, Ill., on April 14, 1854 [for parentage see William Laird's sketch]. There his early days were spent in assisting his father on the farm and attending the common schools, until he had attained his seventeenth year, when he determined to seek his fortunes in the west, and accordingly in May, 1871, he came to Webster County, and soon after his arrival engaged in work on the mill-dam not far away. In 1873 he took up 160 acres of land for himself on Section 14, which he immediately set to work to improve. When Mr. Laird first came to Webster County, game of all kinds was abundant, and he spent considerable time hunting buffalo on the plains. He has his place well improved with a good orchard and a fine young grove, with a neat and comfortable house, good barn, sheds, etc. He devotes considerable attention to stock-raising—horses, cattle and hogs—making a specialty of Holstein cattle and Jersey red hogs. He likes the country, and expects to make it his permanent home. In 1882 Miss Lizzie Leetch, daughter of

William Leetch, of Webster County, became his wife. There have been four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Laird, one of whom died in infancy. Those now living are Ralph H. (born October 30, 1882), Everett (born October 4, 1884) and Clarence D. (born in June, 1887). In his political views Mr. Laird affiliates with the Republican party, and takes a deep interest in the public welfare. He has served on the school board in District No. 5, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

Thomas H. Leigh. A brief outline of Mr. Leigh's life will not be out of place among the biographies of representative men of Webster County. He was born April 24, 1834, in Plymouth, Devonshire, England, a son of Richard and Elizabeth (Shammel) Leigh, also natives of England, and in 1847 accompanied his parents to the United States, landing at New York, and coming direct to Ontonagon County, Mich. Here they resided until 1866, and here our subject grew to manhood, receiving only a limited education. He was engaged in various occupations and had many thrilling experiences and dangerous adventures. He was first engaged in the saw-mill business, later in clearing and farming, and still later entered the employ of "Uncle Sam" as mail-carrier, being the first in that part of the State. In January, 1866, he moved to Kankakee County, Ill., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, remaining here until 1879, when he determined to go west, and accordingly sold out his interests, and moved to Nebraska, settling in this county. Here he is now the owner of a well-improved farm of 240 acres of good land, on which are a good two-story residence, barns, sheds, etc. November 24, 1852, Miss Charlotte Keagle, daughter of Richard and Ann (Rogers) Keagle, natives also of England, became his wife. She was born September 20, 1833, and by her marriage with Mr. Leigh became the mother of one child—Elizabeth, now the wife of Joseph Bradbury, by whom she is the mother of four children, three of whom are still living, viz.: Bessie, William and Emma L. Mr. Leigh was formerly a Republican, but is now an Anti-Monopolist, and a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

Milton Lester, farmer and stock-raiser, of Webster County, Neb., owes his nativity to Connecticut, where he was born in Suffield, Hartford County, October 22, 1840. His father, Milton Lester, Sr., was born in Suffield, Conn., June 4, 1793. His father was a sea captain, and died in 1804. Milton Lester, Sr., was then but eleven years of age, and thus early in life was cast upon his own resources, hence his education was extremely limited. He learned the chair and saddle-tree-making trade, which occupation he followed very successfully during his life. During the Mexican War he had many contracts for saddles. He acquired a large property, and at the age of fifty-two years retired from active business life. When he was twenty-seven years of age he married Miss Chloe King, who bore him one son (the subject of this sketch), and died May 11, 1847. Mr. Lester remained single for four years, and was then married to Ruth Day. He was an active member of the Baptist Church, and died in 1887, at the ripe age of ninety-four. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his youthful days in Suffield, and received a good education at the Connecticut Literary Institute. In 1862 he enlisted for nine months in Company G, Twenty-second Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, Captain George W. Johnson commander, but at the end of seven months, on account of sickness (sciatic rheumatism), he was discharged. During his service he was stationed at Washington. In 1871 he came to Webster County, Neb., and pre-empted the farm on which he now lives, which is the first deeded farm in Webster County. Since then Mr. Lester has spent a good deal of his time in Connecticut, caring for his aged father. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and the first meeting of that order in Webster County was held at his house. He is a Knight Templar, affiliating with Cyrene Commandery, Red Cloud, Neb., and also belongs to Garfield Post No. 80, G. A. R., Red Cloud. He was married in 1873 to Miss Ella Walker, daughter of Alex. and Electa (Matthews) Walker, by whom he has one child—Leon E. Mrs. Lester is junior vice-president of the Women's Relief Corps, Garfield Post 14. Mr. Lester is endowed with native Yankee genius, and has pat-

ented several household inventions and other useful articles.

Richard Nelson Lewis, one of the pioneer settlers of Glenwood Township, Webster County, Neb., owes his nativity to Virginia, where his birth occurred in 1840, and is the second in a family of eleven children born to the union of George and Margaret (Toothman) Lewis, natives of Pennsylvania. The elder Lewis was a successful tiller of the soil, and followed this occupation in the Old Dominion, whither he had moved at an early date, until his death, which occurred in 1878. The mother had received her final summons in 1861. It fell to the lot of R. N. Lewis to grow up with a farm experience, and from the first he has closely and energetically applied himself to the obtaining of a thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, which, it is almost needless to say, he has successfully acquired, as the surroundings of his place plainly indicate. He received his education in the schools of Virginia, and in 1862 he enlisted in Company G, Ninth Connecticut Infantry, at New Orleans, La., for three years. He was in the Department of the Gulf under Gen. B. F. Butler, and was mainly on garrison duty. He was in the battle of Baton Rouge and numerous skirmishes. He was veteranized in May, 1864, and went to Connecticut, where in the same year he was assigned to the Shenandoah Valley. He was in the battle of Winchester, Cedar Creek, Fisher's Hill, etc. He was honorably discharged in August, 1865, at New Haven, Conn., and returned to Virginia, where he engaged in cultivating the soil. He was married in West Virginia in 1866 to Miss Samantha J. Wells, a native of Virginia, and the daughter of Ralph and Nancy (Ankram) Wells, natives also of the Old Dominion. The father was a farmer by occupation, and died about 1858. The mother is still living. Mr. Lewis emigrated to Webster County, Neb., in 1873, and commenced improving his farm. He is now the owner of 400 acres, all in a good state of cultivation, and raises a high grade of Durham cattle. He takes considerable interest in politics, has been a Republican, but his views are with the Prohibition party. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance in Glenwood Township,

and he is an honored member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His marriage was blessed by the birth of ten children: Ida M. (now Mrs. Wilson L. Haynes), Okey J., Marshall R., Nancy E., Leota V., Mary J., Mont. C., Richard M., John W. and Chester A. Mr. Lewis was one of the first settlers on the upland of Glenwood Township, Juniata being their market at that time. He has witnessed the complete growth of the country, and was through the grasshopper raids of 1874 and 1875.

William Lewis was born in Staffordshire, England, in January, 1844, the fourth child born to Samuel and Sarah (Chopin) Lewis, both natives of England. When he was six years of age his parents decided to try their fortunes in the new world, and, accordingly, immigrated to the United States, settling in Du Page County, Ill., where our subject was reared to manhood, and received a good common-school education. In September, 1862, when eighteen years of age, he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Capt. S. T. Daniels, commander, for three years, and served until the close of the war, receiving his discharge at Chicago. He was in the following engagements: Resaca, Dallas, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and all through the Atlanta campaign. During all this time he received but one slight flesh wound, and was not taken prisoner once. He returned from the war and resumed farming operations in Du Page County, Ill., until the spring of 1879, at which time he came to Webster County. Here he purchased a farm of 240 acres of land, then all raw prairie, which he has since converted into a good farm, with good substantial buildings, and well stocked with horses, hogs and cattle. He is an active Republican, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is a member of Burnside Post No. 79, G. A. R., of Bladen, Neb., of which he is commander. In October, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Ellen, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Banfill) Smith, pioneer settlers of Du Page County. By this union he has two children: Sarah E. and John. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Lewis has been very

successful in Nebraska, and is well pleased with the State as a farming country, and expects to make it his permanent home. He contributes, so far as he is able, to the support of schools, churches and all enterprises of public benefit.

S. Lindquist, a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of Webster County, came to this county from Grundy County, Iowa, in 1875, and took up 160 acres of good land, on which he is now residing. Originally from Denmark, he was born in 1839, being the oldest in a family of five children born to the union of B. S. and Caroline (Anderson) Lindquist, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Denmark, the father being a blacksmith by trade. Their marriage was consummated in Denmark, in which country they made their home, reared their children and died, he in 1874, and his wife in 1855. Our subject received his education in the land of his birth. He was married in Denmark April 12, 1865, to Miss Maren Anderson, also a native of Denmark, and in 1867 the young couple came to the United States, settling in Cedar Falls, Iowa, where Mr. Lindquist worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, which he had learned in the old country. He also took up eighty acres of land in Iowa, which he improved, but in 1875 sold these interests and came to Nebraska, homesteading 160 acres of land, which he has since converted into a fine farm. He has a fine herd of thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, in which he takes great pride. His farm is equal to any in the township, and is improved with good house, barns, out-buildings, etc., and a good orchard. Mr. Lindquist does not sell any grain whatever, but feeds it all and sells a number of fat cattle each year, thereby getting better returns for his farm produce. He is not active in politics, but casts his vote with the Republican party, and is now serving his third term as treasurer of Batin Township. He assisted in organizing the school district, and has served on the school board. He and wife are prominent members of the Lutheran Church, and are greatly esteemed by all in the community. They have two adopted children: William Riner and Emma. Mr. Lindquist came to Webster County in the early days of its history, when Hastings, forty miles distant, was

the nearest market, and experienced the hardships and vicissitudes usual to pioneer life. He passed through the grasshopper scourges and other severe trials, which were enough to discourage the bravest heart, but Mr. Lindquist and his estimable wife bore up under all difficulties with the greatest fortitude and determination, and as a reward for all they have endured, have one of the finest farms in this section, and are numbered among the representative farmers of Webster County.

Alfred McCall, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 13, Town 1, Range 12, Walnut Creek Township. The subject of this sketch is a native of the "Keystone State," born in Clarion County, in August, 1848, the eighth child born to the union of Thomas and Lavina (Gibbs) McCall, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Vermont. They were the parents of ten children, of whom Oliver resides in Line Township; Annie is deceased; Joshua lives in Clarion County, Pa.; Elizabeth is now Mrs. Boice and resides in Iowa; R. C. is deceased; Sylvester lives in Line Township; Lucinda is deceased; Alfred is the subject of this sketch; Melinda married a Mr. Signs and is living at Tacoma, Wash., and Mary married a Mr. Snyder and has since died. The father was a farmer by occupation, and spent his entire life in Pennsylvania, dying in 1857. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in his political views sided with the Democratic party. The mother is still living in Pennsylvania and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The subject of this sketch received a common-school education in his native State, and began life for himself as a farm hand when he was fifteen years of age, continuing in this occupation for about three years. At the end of that time he went into the oil regions, remaining there about two years, and then came west to Iowa, but after one or two seasons spent here he returned to Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1877 he came to this county and purchased the farm on which he is now living. To his original purchase he has since added 160 acres of good land, making him the owner of a fine farm of 400 acres, improved and well stocked. He has taken

an active interest in politics in this county, voting with the Democratic party on all occasions, and is at present serving as township supervisor. He has been very successful since coming to this State, but his property has all been acquired by his own exertions and good management. He was married in November, 1870, to Miss Armina Dunlap, daughter of John and Penina (Zilafo) Dunlap, all natives of Pennsylvania. They are the parents of nine children, viz.: Mattie L., Mildred, Joshua L., Floyd C., Cecil, Lula, Malvern, Lee (deceased) and Zenas. Mrs. McCall is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and worships at the In-avale Church.

Dr. G. E. McKeeby was born in Summit County, Ohio, November 4, 1844, and removed with his parents to Oregon, Wis., in 1846. He was educated at the Wisconsin State University, and while a student of that institution, enlisted as a private soldier in the First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, and was honorably discharged in July, 1865, at the close of the war, after one year's service. He returned to his studies, and in 1868 was graduated at the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, and in the autumn of the same year located at Lodi, Wis., where he was engaged in the practice of medicine for fourteen years. During this time he served two years as State Senator from the Twenty-seventh District of Wisconsin. In 1882 he removed to Red Cloud, where he has since resided.

Judge William A. McKeighan is a successful farmer of Webster County, Neb., but was born in Cumberland County, N. J., in 1842, to Alexander and Elizabeth (Torence) McKeighan, natives of the "Emerald Isle," both of whom emigrated to the United States in early life. In 1848 they moved to Fulton County, Ill., and in this county and State the immediate subject of this sketch received the greater part of his rearing. In his youth he was so fortunate as to receive the advantages of the common schools near his father's home, and as they were well conducted and he intelligent he acquired a fair knowledge of the world of books. While the late insurrection was in progress, he joined the Eleventh Regiment of

Illinois Cavalry, under Col. Robert Ingersoll, and served under his able command until the close of the war, having taken part in all the principal engagements in which the Western Army participated. After the close of the war, in the year 1866, his marriage occurred, his wife being a Miss Lois E. Brown, of Fulton County, Ill., and a descendant of the noted Isaac Huffman, a well-known pillar in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their family now consists of three children: Charles F., Edith L. (who is a successful educator of the county, and was educated in the Red Cloud schools) and Jessie M. After his marriage Mr. McKeighan removed to Livingston County, Ill., and embarked in farming and stock-raising, an occupation which received his attention for some twelve years. While in this county he began his public career, being an advocate of revenue reform, and was one of the leading lights in the Illinois State Farmers' Association, being vice-president of the then Eighth Congressional District of Illinois. He took an active part in the election of Judge Craig to the supreme bench, and was also deeply interested in the election of Judge Nathaniel Pillsbury to the judgeship of that judicial district, and to the election of Judge Frank Blades. He next took part in the canvass in which Judge Davis defeated Gen. Logan in his candidacy for the United States Senate, and during all this time his attention was successfully given to his farm. In the spring of 1880 he determined to seek a home on the fertile prairies of Nebraska, and up to the present date has been engaged in tilling the soil near Red Cloud. In the fall of the year of his arrival here, he was unable to do effective work in the political field, but made one telling speech at Blue Hill and one at Red Cloud, his speech being the first ever made at the last-named place. In the autumn of 1885 he was selected as a suitable person to occupy the position of judge of the county court, and filled this office in a highly creditable manner for a term of two years. During the fall of 1886 he made a two-weeks' campaign, and although he was defeated, he polled the largest vote of any man put up by the Democratic party, running

ahead of his ticket in every county. He has at all times opposed the extortions of railroad corporations and the national banking system, as well as the present protective tariff system, by his voice and vote, and has gained a widespread reputation throughout his section of the country as an effective speaker and a powerful advocate of the different causes which he espouses. He is a member of the G. A. R., Garfield Post No. 84, and also belongs to the I. O. O. F., the K. of L., and the Farmers' Alliance. He delivered the Odd Fellows' oration at Red Cloud in 1881, and the memorial address at the time of the death of Gen. John Logan.

M. B. McNitt, dealer in gent's furnishing goods, Red Cloud, Neb. The subject of this sketch was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1842. When he was fourteen years of age, his parents decided to try their fortunes in other pastures, and accordingly moved their family to Michigan, where our subject grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education. He worked on the farm until the breaking out of the Civil War, when the danger of destruction to the Union roused the patriotism of this young scion of liberty, who had never known a harsher sound than the hunter's horn, and who had been reared under laws that left personal liberty as free as the winds that roamed through his native forest. With high honor and true patriotism he resolved to assist in supporting the grand old flag of his country or die under the waves of its ample folds. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company G, Nineteenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and served until June 25, 1865. The last year of service he was promoted to corporal. He participated in the following battles: At Thompson's Station, Tenn., he was wounded and taken prisoner, but was recaptured by his own men. He was not in active service again until 1864, when he again sought the battlefield, and this time was on the Atlanta campaign. He was again wounded, this time at Resaca, and was so badly injured as to keep him out of active service until after Atlanta was taken. He next went with Sherman on his march to the sea, was in an engagement at Averysboro, N. C., and was in sight of Bentonville

(the last engagement fought by Sherman's army) when they took that place. He was in the grand parade at Washington, and was mustered out at that city, receiving his discharge at Detroit, Mich. The grand object for which he fought having been achieved, he gladly returned to quiet life. He returned to his native county, in Ohio, and farmed there until 1872, when he came west and located in Webster County. He was a pioneer of Red Cloud, and has the honor of having built the first two-story frame building, and having brought the first stock of hardware to the place. He remained in the hardware business until 1875, when he sold out, having previously, in 1874, received the appointment of postmaster, which office he held for twelve consecutive years, until 1886. In the fall of 1885 he was elected county treasurer, and served for four consecutive years. At the expiration of his term of service as county treasurer, he bought an interest in his present business, which has since been run under the firm name of McNitt & Gulusha. Mr. McNitt is a member of the board of trade and master of the Masonic lodge at this place. His father was born in New York, early emigrated to Ohio, and is now residing in Red Cloud. His mother died in 1871. They were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch, and a daughter. Mr. McNitt has been twice married: First, while living in Ohio, to Miss Albina Wilcox, who died in 1871, leaving one child, Randolph. Mr. McNitt then married Miss Antoinette Munsell, and four children have blessed this latter union, viz.: Thaddeus, Percy, Lafayette and Anna Lori.

Peter Marsden, an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 20, Line Township, is a native of England, born in Derbyshire, England, June 29, 1808, the third of a family of fifteen children, born to Matthew and Mary (Marsden) Marsden, natives of the same country. He was reared to manhood and obtained his schooling in his native place, receiving an academic education. He fitted himself for the occupation of surveyor, and assisted in the survey of the Manchester & Liverpool Railroad. He was married in 1827 to Miss Sarah Gregory, a daughter of Andrew Gregory, natives of England, and in 1833, accompanied by

his wife, he sailed for the United States, landing in New York, where he settled his family. He then went to Pottsville, Pa., engaged in coal mining for three years, then moved to Galena, Ill., where he leased land and engaged in mining and dairying. These interests he conducted for eleven years, then engaged exclusively in mining, which occupation he followed until 1865, and then moved to Iowa and embarked in farming, at the same time holding his interests in Illinois. In 1872 he sold his interests, and moved to near Lincoln, Neb., where he purchased a section of land, and entered extensively into stock-raising, breeding only fancy cattle and hogs. In 1878 he moved to this county and purchased his present farm, comprising one section of land, and has since devoted his attention to raising thoroughbred Short-horn Durham cattle. His herd contains all registered cattle, and is headed by Leila Prairie Flower, and the celebrated Louans Pride, and Mr. Marsden is recognized as one of the leading stockmen of the county. His union with Sarah Gregory resulted in the birth of nine children, namely: Sarah (wife of George Harris), Mary Ann (wife of John Beresford), Priscilla, A. Victoria, Melvina (deceased), Frank and George. Mrs. Marsden died in 1864, and in 1872 Miss Lorena Olson became Mrs. Marsden. This latter union has been blessed by the birth of a son, John. Mr. Marsden has been a Republican for a great many years, and has held different township offices of trust and honor. Both he and wife are highly respected members of the community in which they reside.

A. S. Marsh, mayor of Red Cloud, was born in New York, in 1839, a son of Amos and Betsy (Judson) Marsh, the former born in Vermont and the latter in Connecticut. Grandfather Marsh was a Presbyterian minister all his life. His son Amos was educated with a view to entering the Presbyterian ministry, but after studying for seven years he was obliged to give it up on account of ill health, and turned his attention to mercantile pursuits in Jamesville, N. Y. He was a strong Abolitionist. The Marsh family were of English descent. Both he and wife were church members, he worshiping with the Presbyterians, and

his wife with the Methodists, and both died in New York, the former at the age of sixty-five, and the latter at the age of fifty-six years. The subject of this sketch received an academic education in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y. When he was sixteen years of age he entered a mercantile establishment as clerk, subsequently engaging in business on his own account, and continued in the mercantile business in New York until 1864, at which time he went to Chicago and remained there until 1867, then returned to New York on a visit, and in July, 1868, came to Beatrice, Neb. Here he opened a mercantile establishment, and continued in business at Beatrice until 1880, at which time he came to Red Cloud and opened up a general merchandise business, which he followed until 1886, when at the beginning of Cleveland's administration he received the appointment as postmaster, and held that office until February 18, 1890. April 1, 1890, he was elected mayor of Red Cloud on the peoples' ticket, and is now satisfactorily discharging the duties of that office. He was united in marriage in Beatrice, Neb., in 1870, to Miss Marietta Follett, born in Ohio, and four children have been given them. Mr. Marsh has been a member of the city school board for four years, and is still serving in that capacity. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the A. O. U. W., and of the board of trade.

Ira O. Martin is well known throughout Webster County, not only on account of being one of the earliest settlers, but because of the prominent part he takes in furthering all worthy enterprises, and for his charity and kindness of heart. He was born in the village of Elizabethtown, Jo Daviess County, Ill., September 16, 1848, being a son of Joseph H. and Mary J. (Seward) Martin, who were native Virginians, married in 1846, and are still living. Ira O. Martin left his native village with his parents when a small boy, and went to Lacon, Ill., and later, or in 1860, they located in Canton, Ill. In 1862 he entered the Union army as a drummer boy in Company D, One Hundred and Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after serving with it for about nine months, he received an honorable discharge. He went soon after to Leav-

enworth, Kas., where, for two years, he held the position of headquarter's clerk, being employed the three subsequent years as Government clerk at Sioux Falls, Dak. In 1869 he returned to Canton, Ill., and shortly afterward he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad as operator, at Kewanee, Ill. At the expiration of nine months he accepted the position of operator and station agent at Colmar, Ill., of which place he remained an inhabitant two years. He was married at Colmar in October, 1872, to Miss Mattie A. Price, a native of Cambridge, Mo., and a daughter of Wyckliff and Mary (Powell) Price. From Colmar, Mr. Martin went to Godfrey, Ill., as operator and station agent for the Chicago & Alton Railway, and three years later was transferred to Virden, Ill., and there he continued in a like capacity for the same length of time, and for the same road. He came to Nebraska September 24, of that year, and became an employe of the Burlington & Missouri River Railway at Hastings, but on the 20th day of the following month he opened a telegraph office for the above-named road at Blue Hill, and thus became the first operator on the Denver extension of the Burlington & Missouri River Road. He remained here until September 5, 1879, performing the duties of operator and station agent, also agent for the Lincoln Town Site Company, for S. B. Rohrer, of Hagerstown, Md., and was postmaster of the town. At the above-named date he was transferred to Red Cloud, Neb., where, for about three and one half years, he acted as agent, then spent the following year as agent of the Missouri Pacific Railway, at Muscotah, Kas. In November, 1883, he returned to Blue Hill, Neb., and embarked in the real estate business as an associate of R. A. Simpson and F. A. Sweezy, thus continuing until August 23, 1885. During the year of 1884 the firm of which he was a member sold over 20,000 acres of land, and on August 23, 1885, Mr. Martin was enabled to purchase an interest in the Blue Hill Bank, and from that time until March 1, 1889, that institution was entirely owned and conducted by Mr. Martin and R. A. Simpson. Mr. Martin then sold out to his partner and purchased from him his interest in the

Farmers' & Merchants' Bank, at Campbell, Neb., which he still owns, and of which he has since been president. He has, also, during the past year, been associated with Mr. P. A. Wells in the law, insurance and real estate business, and every enterprise with which he is engaged is prospering. He has attained the rank of Knight Templar in the Masonic fraternity, and is also a member of the I. O. O. F. He is a Republican, politically, and at present holds the office of justice of the peace, having been elected in November, 1889, overcoming a strong Democratic majority. His union with Miss Price has resulted in the birth of the following children: Eugene W., Bernard, Mara, Frances A. and Imogene (who are living), and Olive, Ira O. and two sons unnamed (who are deceased).

August Martin is successfully conducting a meat market at Blue Hill, Neb. He was born in Germany January 4, 1849, and in compliance with the law of that country, he attended school until he was fourteen years of age. He then learned the butcher's trade of his father, John Martin, and in 1867 came to the United States, and worked at his trade for three years in Freeport, Ill. The year of 1870 found him in Atchison, Kas., working at his trade for one year. Two months were then spent in Leavenworth, Kas., where he opened an establishment, but not being successful, in the spring of 1872 he went to Topeka, where he made his home until the spring of 1874. Since that time he has resided in Nebraska, and after spending a few months in Kearney, he went to Lowell, where he again opened an establishment of his own. He was married there on May 22, 1874, to Miss Amelia Nitze, a native of the Fatherland, who came to America in 1873. Soon after his marriage Mr. Martin removed from Lowell to Bloomington, Neb., and after conducting a meat market in that place for four years, he was engaged in the hotel business for the three following years. From 1880 until 1884 he resided in Hastings, but in August of the last named year moved to Blue Hill, where he has ever since conducted a first-class meat market, being the leading butcher of the place, and an esteemed and respected citizen. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W.

and the K. of P., and in his political views, like so many of his countrymen, is a Democrat. He has served as a member of the town board two terms. To Mr. and Mrs. Martin a family of six children have been born: Emma, Ida, Edwin, Anna, Amelia and John Robert, of whom Emma died at the age of four years.

Samuel P. Martin, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. It is a fact unnecessary of denial that a person is better fitted to follow the occupation with which he became familiar in early life, than to engage in an undertaking learned in later years. This truth is borne out in the career of Mr. Martin, who, from a boy, has known all the details of agricultural life. To this acquired knowledge may be added a natural faculty for that calling, for his father, Lewis Martin, was also a farmer. The latter was a native of Kentucky, and the mother, whose maiden name was Phoebe Skelton, was a native of the Old Dominion. Samuel P. Martin was reared to manhood in his native State, where he was given a common-school education, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age. He then came to Nebraska, settled in Webster County, and here he has since remained engaged in successfully conducting his farm. He homesteaded 160 acres of land, which he has improved, and on which he has erected a comfortable house, substantial out-buildings, etc. On October 7, 1874, he was married to Miss Elmira Munsell, a native of Dane County, Wis., born July 8, 1856, and the daughter of Capt. L. F. and Lorinda (Yeager) Munsell, natives of New York and Canada, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Martin were born five children: Winnie M., Julia L., Roy F., Gertie L. and Lottie E. Mr. Martin has always affiliated with the Republican party in his political views, and is a member of the Old Settlers' Association. He has held a number of local offices, and is a man esteemed and respected by all. Mrs. Martin is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Martin was one of the pioneer settlers of this county, and understands what is meant by the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life.

Casper Matzener was born in Switzerland De-

cember 25, 1831, and was a son of Matthew and Ann (Brog) Matzener, both of whom were born and died in Switzerland. The father was a farmer by occupation, and gave his son a good education. He was married in Berne, Switzerland, in 1856, to Miss Verena Brock, born in Switzerland, and together in 1868 they emigrated to the United States, locating in Greene County, Ill. Mr. Matzener, who is a shoemaker by trade, worked on the bench at Whitehall for a number of years, but in February, 1878, he came to Nebraska and settled where he now lives. He first purchased 160 acres of raw prairie land, which he has since fenced and broke, having ninety acres in a high state of cultivation. The balance of his land is meadow and pasture. His neat one-story residence, good barn, wind pump, bearing orchard and grove, etc., all indicate the hardy and thrifty race from which he comes. In his political views he affiliates with the Democratic party, and has held several offices of trust and honor. He was elected treasurer of Beaver township in the fall of 1889, and is now serving in that capacity. To his marriage have been born two children, viz.: Mary (married Grant Greger, and both she and her husband make their home with her father helping to carry on the farm) and John (who is married, has an infant daughter, and resides near by). Mr. Matzener was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died December 25, 1888. She was a worthy Christian lady, a loving mother, and a true and faithful wife for thirty-two years. Mr. Matzener is a member of the Lutheran Reformed Church, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., and has served as secretary of his order.

Abraham W. Miller is the proprietor of the Union Mills at Blue Hill, but his birth occurred in Washington County, Md., September 21, 1839, he being a son of Abraham and Susan (Funk) Miller, the former a native of Franklin County, Pa. He was a miller by trade and died in 1886, his wife dying when the subject of this sketch was a small lad. The latter grew to manhood in his native county and learned the miller's trade of his father. December 30, 1862, he wedded Miss Mary Sword, who was also born in Washington County, Md., a daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Reed) Sword,

and by her is the father of eight children: Emma Kate, Sarah, Samuel F., Mary, Ellen, Daniel, Franklin and Floyd, all living with the exception of Daniel, who died at the age of five years. In 1862 Mr. Miller removed from Maryland to Mount Morris, Ogle County, Ill., and in that county and Carroll County, which adjoined it, he resided until 1872, being engaged in milling and farming. At that date he came to the prairies of Nebraska to make a home for himself and family, and first located in Saline County, where he farmed until 1878, at which time he removed to Ellis County, Kas. A year later he went to Denver, Colo., where he pursued the calling of a contractor until 1883, when he returned to Nebraska and located at Blue Hill. Here he built the Union Mills, which he has successfully operated ever since. It is a valuable property, in first-class condition, and in 1887 was provided with a roller process, and its product, which Mr. Miller gives to the public, is of the finest quality. He is a Republican politically, and he and wife are members of the German Baptist Church.

Leander S. Miller lives on Section 21, Harmony Township, Webster County, Neb., and is a native of New York, born February 22, 1840, in Cooperstown. In 1845, when he was five years of age, his parents immigrated to Wisconsin, where he was reared and made his home until 1871, since which time he has been identified with Webster County, Neb. Upon his arrival here he entered a soldier's claim of 160 acres of raw prairie, which he now cultivates. His parents were natives of the "Empire State" also. His father, a carpenter and cooper by trade, was born in 1801, and devoted the latter part of his life to farming. He was married in New York, February 11, 1825, to Miss Melinda Smith, and to them were born ten children—seven boys and three girls—of whom Henry, the eldest, is now the proprietor and owner of a hotel at Eureka Springs, Ark.; Jerry is a farmer, and resides near Mitchell, Dak.; Justina married the Rev. James R. Polk, and resides in Wisconsin; Margaret D. married Volney E. Winegar, a stock-buyer and shipper, and is living at Clinton Junction, Wis.; Eusebia wedded Giles

Burt, a stock-buyer and shipper, and also lives at Clinton Junction, Wis., where her husband is doing a very successful business; John died in infancy, as did the child next in order of birth; Charles E. is a farmer and stock-raiser, residing south of Janesville, Wis.; the subject of this sketch is next in chronology; Clark I. is a physician and surgeon, and resides at Whitewater, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were liberally educated in the common schools of Wisconsin, and are ardent supporters of all educational matters. Mr. Miller was married at Janesville, Wis., September 30, 1868, by which union he is the father of nine children, viz.: Lineas (who was born in Wisconsin, and is now a successful school teacher, being engaged in that calling for four years; he is now teaching school in Franklin County, about two miles from Campbell, Ill.), Gertrude Irene (was born in Wisconsin, and was married to Frank Lindy, a farmer by occupation, residing in Harmony Township), Grace B. (was the first white child born in this part of the county; she is now attending school, and is bright in her scholastic attainments), Rose M. (is also attending school, and has chosen the path of the teacher for her future profession; she is well advanced in her studies), Una Estella (died in 1878, when only one month old), Ila C. (a bright young lady of eight years, is attending school), Lee S. (is now six years old) and Frank Evans (was born April 4, 1884, and died when he was four and one-half months old). The youngest, an infant, died in 1887. Mr. Miller served his country during the late war, enlisting in Company B, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into service September 11, 1861, when he was twenty-one years of age. His company was stationed at Camp Tredway (named in honor of Q. M. Gen. Tredway), was sent from Janesville, Wis., to Leavenworth, Kas., to quell the disturbances of the "border ruffians," thence to Fort Scott, and was then ordered back to Fort Riley to fit out for crossing the plains to New Mexico. They were in camp about one month, when the order was countermanded and they were ordered back to Cairo, Ill. When Cairo was reached, the order was given to march to Columbus,

Ky., thence through Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri and Alabama. Mr. Miller served as sergeant of Company B. During the winter of 1862-63 he was on detached mounted service near the "Old Hermitage," President Jackson's old home, and was employed in scouting and picking up rebel deserters, and on November 19, 1864, he was honorably discharged from the Fourth Division, Twentieth Army Corps, at Nashville, Tenn., immediately after which he returned to Janesville, Wis., and engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he has continued to the present time. Mr. Miller has always identified himself with the Republican party, and cast his first vote for the illustrious Abraham Lincoln (second term). He has taken an active part in all municipal affairs in township and county, being one of the four who were sent to Red Cloud to precinct his district off from Red Cloud. He sat on the first grand jury, and was present at the first term of court which was ever held in Webster County. He relates very graphically how he was summoned as grand juror. The Little Blue, a turbulent stream, was filled from bank to bank. A stranger was seen to approach the south side of the stream opposite Mr. Miller's residence and frantically wave his hat. Mrs. Miller went to his aid, and was informed that he was the sheriff of Webster County, and had a summons for Mr. Miller as juror on the grand jury, and it was impossible for him to cross over and deliver the summons. Mrs. Miller very modestly informed him that he could go back without serving the summons, but he protested, so Mrs. Miller told him if he had to serve the summons, to tie it to a stick and throw it across the stream, which he did, and she delivered the summons to her husband. Mr. Miller has served as a member of the town board, and both he and wife have taken an active and intelligent position in the educational interests of their home district. The education of their children has always been uppermost in their minds. Mr. Miller is a member of Lodge No. 129, A. O. U. W., at Campbell, and is adjutant of Post 3, G. A. R., at Campbell. This post has about thirty active members in good standing. Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller are recognized by their

many friends as staple and responsible people who helped to make and improve the country. They thrillingly relate the troubles experienced by the treacherous Indians and the scourge of grasshoppers. When they first settled in Harmony Township, Grand Island, Neb., was the principal market, at a distance of sixty miles—not a vestige of Blue Hill, Bladen, Hastings, Campbell, nor any of the flourishing towns now so very enterprising.

J. L. Miller, a prominent business man of Red Cloud, Neb., dealing in harness and saddlery, was born in Fulton County, Ind., in 1846, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Weybright) Miller, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. They moved to Wabash County, Ind., in 1855, where the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, and from here he enlisted in Company H, Twentieth Indiana Infantry, and served from 1863 until the close of the war. He served in the First Division of the Third Corps, and after the re-organization was in the First Division of the Second Corps, under Hancock. In 1864, in front of Petersburg, he was severely wounded in the shoulder, and was confined in the hospital from June until October. At the close of the war he returned home, remaining there until 1867, when he moved to Iowa, and from there on to Nebraska in the fall of the same year, and assisted in hauling lumber, with which to begin the city of Lincoln, from Nebraska City. He located in Sterling, Neb., and erected the first house at that place. He was married at Sterling, in 1874, and in April of the same year he came to Red Cloud and engaged in business. Mr. Miller is the oldest merchant in the city (with the exception of W. N. Richardson), having begun his present business in 1876. He carries an excellent line of goods, the most extensive in the city, and enjoys a large trade. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of two boys: Harry and Samuel. So cially Mr. Miller is a member of the A. F. & A. M., including K. T., the A. O. U. W., the M. W. A., the K. of P. and the G. A. R.

Levi Moore. This historical work would not be complete without an extended sketch of Mr. Moore, one of the foremost citizens of Webster County. He was born in Virginia, June 13, 1813,

whither his father, a native of Pennsylvania, moved, when he was twelve years of age, subsequently marrying Nancy Sharp, a Virginian, by whom he had eight children, the subject of this sketch being the only one now living. Grandfather Levi Moore, a Scotch-Irishman, settled in Pennsylvania at an early day, and afterward moved to the wilds of Virginia, where he reared his family and died. Our subject's father, a farmer by occupation, was a scout in the Indian border troubles, and died in Pocahontas County, W. Va. When the subject of this sketch was but a child, both his parents died, and he had to make his own way in the world. By his own efforts he obtained a good common-school education, which has since served him well. He left his native State when he was twenty-two years of age, going to McHenry County, Ill., and farming from 1836 until 1842. Here he was married to Miss Prudence Ackerson, a native of the Empire State, born in 1824, who is still living. One child who was sent to gladden their home died in its second year. In 1851 Mr. Moore and wife moved to Iowa, remaining there until 1873, when they came to Red Cloud, where Mr. Moore purchased 600 acres of land, which he still owns. Since his arrival here, he has been engaged in the banking business; he organized the State Bank of Red Cloud, and was its president for a number of years; he was also one of the chief organizers of the Red Cloud National Bank, and is still the vice-president of the same, owning \$10,000 worth of stock. When Mr. Moore reached McHenry County, Ill., in 1836, that point was then the extreme western border of settlement. He and three companions were together. The settlement to which they first repaired objected to unmarried men taking up land in their midst, as they desired families to locate, consequently our subject and his comrades sought other places for location. Here Mr. Moore formed the acquaintance of the famous chief of the Pottawatomie Indians, and secured the friendship of that noted chief, who offered them a guide to take them to a country where no white man had ever been. They accepted this proffer, and were led to the borders of the Kishwalkey, where they took land under the "squatters' sower

eignty," being the first white men on the river. Here they settled, the subject of this sketch "backing it" there until he was married, and here he continued to live until his removal to Iowa, thence to Nebraska. Since coming here, Mr. Moore has been one of Red Cloud's most active citizens, no enterprise for the good of the town or country having lacked his assistance. He has in his lifetime seen the whole western country grow from a wilderness to gigantic States containing millions of inhabitants. He is a pleasant gentleman, active and vigorous for his years. Politically he is a Republican.

J. W. Moranville, a prominent physician of Red Cloud, was born in Vermont, in 1844, receiving a common-school education in his native State, and later attending a college in Canada, whither his parents had moved, for one year. After a three-years' residence in Canada, he returned to the United States, and commenced the study of medicine, first in Lawrence, Mass., under a preceptor, R. A. Morse, where he also did his first prescribing. Subsequently he attended homeopathic lectures in Chicago, in 1873. He commenced the practice of his chosen profession first in Salem, Vt., next at Bristol, Greene County, Iowa. In 1879 he came to Nebraska and located at Cowles, this county; next he located at Guide Rock, where he practiced for nine years, when he came to Red Cloud, where he has since built up a very large practice. He left an excellent practice at Guide Rock to come to Red Cloud. He was married in Charleston, Vt., to Miss Eliza Moranville, a second cousin of his, and there have been four children born to them, viz.: Harry, Ernest, Gertie and James. Mr. Moranville is a Mason, and in his political views affiliates with the Republican party. His parents were Jacob and Lucy (Blake) Moranville, the former born in Canada, of French descent, the latter of English extraction. They now reside in Guide Rock. Thirteen children, ten sons and three daughters, were born to their union.

Capt. Lafayette Munsell, farmer and stock raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. This successful and prosperous tiller of the soil and stock-raiser is a native of Montgomery County, N. Y., born on March 25,

1824, and was reared to manhood in his native State, where he secured a good common-school education. Commencing at the age of sixteen years, he learned the trade of carpenter and builder with his father, and remained with the latter until his death, which occurred on May 11, 1843, at Port Jackson, N. Y. After the death of his father our subject went to Rochester of the same State, and remained there four months, then went to Canada, and continued until nearly twenty-one years of age. He afterward followed the river and worked on the Mississippi on a steam-boat until April 20, 1847, when he enlisted in the Fifteenth United States Infantry, Company K, serving under Col. George W. Morgan, known as "Cumberland Gap" Morgan. This regiment was landed at Vera Cruz, Old Mexico, on the 4th of May and the principal battles fought were Toloona, Natural Bridge and Pas A. La Hoya, where Capt. Guthrie, who commanded the company, was killed. They then moved on to the City of Mexico and joined Gen. Scott on the 7th of July, at Pueblo. One month from that time they started toward the capitol, and on the 18th of August took San Augustine, Tala Palm, and later Contreas and took Cherusbusco; on the 8th of September had the fight of Molino del Rey and on the 13th they charged on Chapultepec, and that frowning citadel was carried by storm. Through the San Cosme and Belen gates the conquering army swept resistlessly, and at night-fall the soldiers of the Union were in the suburbs of Mexico. Returning to the United States, Mr. Munsell received his discharge in Covington, Ky., August 7, 1848. He then went to Madison, Wis., where he followed his trade until 1854, and then purchased a farm and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. In 1861 he was commissioned on the 15th of June by Alexander Randal, then Governor of the State, to raise Company H, which joined the Eighth Wisconsin, under Col. Murphy. He was in the famous Eagles, that fought under the wings of Old Abe, the great war eagle. The first battle was at Fredericktown, and then followed thirty-five battles, commencing from October 21, 1861, and extending to August 13, 1864. The principal ones during that time were the battles of Island

No. 10, Corinth, Vicksburg, Richmond, Brownsville, Moore Plantation, Bayou Robert and Holly Springs. He was severely injured at the charge of Vicksburg, and was afterward honorably discharged. He returned to his farm, and there remained until 1869. On August 1, 1870, he emigrated to Webster County, Neb., and took a homestead of 160 acres. Here he has since remained and has been very successful. He is dealing largely in cattle and also raises a fine breed of horses. On July 4, 1849, he was married to Miss Lorinda Yager, daughter of Henry W. and Elizabeth (White) Yager, natives of New York and Canada, respectively. Mrs. Munsell was born August 5, 1833. This union resulted in the birth of twelve children, eight of whom are now living: Filinda (deceased wife of Mortimer Judd) Sarah Ann (wife of Mark Warner), Antoinette, (wife of M. B. McNitt), Elvira (wife of Charles Van Dusen), Elmira (wife of S. P. Martin), Ira, Eva, Lotta and Boyd. Mr. Munsell is a Republican in political views, but does not care for political honors. He is a member of Garfield Post No. 80, G. A. R., at Red Cloud, and is one of the leading men of the county, notwithstanding his age. He is one of the nineteen men who organized this county in 1871, and is one of the representative citizens of this young State. He has a very comfortable home, all that can contribute to his happiness during his declining years. His parents, Andrus and Lucinda (Darling) Munsell, were natives of Old Lime Connecticut and New Scotland, N. Y., respectively, the father born on July 9, 1781.

D. J. Myers, editor of the Red Cloud Democrat, is a native of Illinois, born at Yorktown, in 1860, a son of M. A. and Caroline (Gardner) Myers, natives of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, respectively. When young Myers was seventeen years of age, he left his native State and came to Hastings, Neb., remaining there one year, and then returned to Illinois, where he continued until 1880. At that time he again removed to Nebraska, and made his home in Franklin County, for four years, when a location was chosen in Webster County. Mr. Myers was reared on a farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until 1886, at which

time he started a drug store, which he ran until 1887, and then sold out and engaged in other business. In June, 1889, he purchased a one-half interest in the Red Cloud Democrat. He belongs to the M. W. A. and the A. O. U. W. His literary efforts have been attended with good results, and he has demonstrated his entire fitness for a position in the journalistic field by the conduct of the paper with which he is now connected.

William M. Obanion, a prominent and energetic farmer of Oak Creek Township, Webster County, was born in Kentucky, in 1825, the seventh child in a family of ten children born to William and Sarah (Snargrass) Obanion, the former born in Virginia in 1789, a son of Joseph Obanion, and the latter born in Virginia in 1791, a daughter of Isacca Snargrass. They were married in Casey County, Ky., subsequently moving to Cumberland County, where the father became a well-to-do farmer, and here they raised their family of ten children, viz.: Mary, Alfred, Lavica, Jane, Matilda, Walker, William, Preston, Thomas and Isacca. Here the father died in 1837, leaving a widow, who survived until 1876, when she too passed away, dying in Tennessee in that year at the ripe old age of eighty-five years. She was a member of the Christian Church. The immediate subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native State, and in 1849 started out in life for himself, with Mary A. Helton, daughter of Joseph Helton, of Kentucky, as his companion. She was born in Kentucky in 1827. They were given eight children (five of whom have since died), viz.: Mary E. (deceased), Jerome B. (deceased), William Thomas (now in Western Oregon), Joseph W. (deceased), Martha F. (now Mrs. Carnegie), and Millie S. (now Mrs. Bunnell). In 1854 Mr. Obanion immigrated with his family to Indiana, where they made their home for sixteen years, then moved to Missouri, remaining there until 1874, at which time they came to Clay County, and in 1875 came to Webster County, and took up the homestead on which they now live, which is well improved, and here Mr. Obanion is very successfully engaged in raising grain and stock. Mrs. Obanion is a member of the Baptist Church, and is an earnest

Christian lady. Mr. Obanion votes the Democratic ticket, and like many intelligent farmers of Nebraska belongs to the Alliance.

Gerhard Ohmstede, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. A short sketch of Mr. Ohmstede will not be out of place in this volume, and will be read with interest. Originally from Germany, he was born in Oldenburg, June 18, 1856, a son of Gerhard and Anna Ohmstede, both of whom still reside in their native country—Oldenburg, where the father is engaged in agricultural pursuits. Gerhard Ohmstede was reared to maturity in his native country, receiving a good education, and in the fall of 1873, at the age of twenty-two years, he emigrated to the States, locating in this county. He first leased land which he improved and afterward purchased, and now owns 320 acres of fine land, all of which is fenced, cultivating about 160 acres. On this he has erected a comfortable dwelling, good barns and out-buildings, etc. He has a thriving young grove of 2,000 trees, and an orchard of about 250 trees, some of which are bearing. July 29, 1883, in Webster County, Mr. Ohmstede was united in matrimonial bonds with Miss Caroline Knehans, daughter of Henry Knehans, who was born and reared in St. Louis, Mo., and they became the parents of four children, one of whom, Henry, died in his second year. Those living are Gerhard, Minnie and an infant son named Chris. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ohmstede believe in the doctrines of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Ohmstede belongs to the Alliance, and to the A. O. U. W.

William Parkes, boot and shoemaker, Red Cloud, Neb., was born in Doncaster, Yorkshire, England, in 1832, a son of Samuel and Sarah (Conway) Parkes, both born in England about 1811. The mother is now living in Indianola, Neb. The parents came to America in 1855, our subject preceding them two years. William Parkes is one of five children, all of whom are living, viz.: William, John, Edward, Samuel, and Charlotte (now Mrs. C. S. Quick, of Indianola, Neb. He was married in 1855 to Miss Sarah Smith, of Northampton, Northamptonshire, England, and a daughter was born to them in Lehi, Utah. Upon coming to this

country Mr. Parkes first located in Salt Lake City until 1859, when he and his wife and daughter, father and mother, brothers and sister, moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and there engaged in boot and shoemaking. Here they buried their daughter, and now have an adopted boy. He came to Red Cloud in the winter of 1870, took a claim (160 acres) two and one-half miles southwest of Red Cloud, which he still owns. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to Charity Lodge No. 53, A. F. & A. M., Chapter No. 19, R. A. M., Commandery 19, K. T., and Webster Encampment No. 25.

F. E. Payne, farmer and stock-raiser, Cather-ton Township, was born in Frederick County, Va., in September, 1850, and is the oldest child born to R. T. and Sarah (Scribner) Payne. They were the parents of six children, viz.: F. E. (the subject of this sketch), Mrs. Mary Cooper (of this township), Mrs. Ida Brown (of Winchester, Va.), Mrs. Pinkney Hale and Mrs. Carrie Harvey (of Ina-vale Township), and Robert Bruce (residing with his brother, our subject). The father was a cooper by trade, and lived in his native State till 1884, when he came to Nebraska, locating in this township where he is now living. Both he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The subject of this sketch received a common-school education in his native State, and at the age of twenty-two years began life for himself as a farmer, following that occupation with success in his native State until 1877, when he came to this State. Here he entered a homestead and timber claim, comprising 320 acres in Section 34-3-12 on Farmers' Creek, all of which he has under an excellent state of cultivation, well improved with good buildings, fruit and forest trees, etc. He is active in politics and votes with the Prohibition party, and for a time has held the office of justice of the peace in this township. He was married in July, 1881, to Mrs. Vernie (Cather) Clutter, widow of Webster Clutter, and daughter of William and Caroline (Smith) Cather, of Virginia; she died in December, 1885, leaving him one child, Wilella. Mr. Payne is a member of the Baptist Church.

Colvin D. Peck (deceased) was a native of Ver-

mont, born in Maidstone June 30, 1835. In early life he engaged in agricultural pursuits, subsequently working in the quarries of feldspar and mica. After his marriage he worked in a chair factory as a cabinet-maker, then farmed in different localities until 1874, when he came to Nebraska and located on the old homestead now occupied by his wife and sons. Mr. Peck was educated in the common schools of the East, and always took a decided interest in the upbuilding of schools. He served as school director in his home district for four years, and during this time took great care in selecting teachers, choosing only high-grade and competent instructors. During the late war Mr. Peck went to the defense of his country's flag, enlisting in the Third New Hampshire Volunteers, and was sent to Hilton Head, S. C., but was honorably discharged on account of disability, after an absence from home of only one month. He cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan, but was non-partisan, and bravely and boldly upheld the honest man. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity. He was a type of morality in his home life, and in all his walks in life was an honorable man, respected and esteemed for his sterling integrity and genuine worth.

Mrs. Juliette Peck, widow of Colvin D. Peck, resides on Section 2, Batin Township, Webster County. She was born in New Hampshire April 13, 1836, being the third child born to the union of Joseph and Percy Gleeson, the former born in Acworth, N. H., in 1804, and the latter born in Dedham, Mass., in 1806. They were the parents of five children, viz.: Persons Elizabeth (deceased), Lucinda B. (is unmarried and resides on the old homestead in New Hampshire), Needham (was a farmer, but is now deceased), Juliette (our subject), Parthenia Ann (married Julius Crosset, a farmer and carpenter, and resides on the old homestead). Mrs. Peck grew to maturity in her native State, receiving her education in the public schools, and also attending the academy at Acworth for three terms. May 16, 1860, she was united in marriage to Colvin D. Peck, a native of Vermont, born in Maidstone June 30, 1835, and shortly after her marriage moved to Templeton, Mass., where

they remained for some time, subsequently moving to Acworth, N. H. To this marriage were born four children—three boys and one girl—as follows: Estella E. (born September 24, 1861, married Wilbur B. Nutting, a farmer, and makes her home at Genoa Bluffs, Iowa), William (was born June 10, 1864, and is now residing with his mother on the homestead in Batin Township. William received a common-school education, which has admirably fitted him for the practical duties of farm life, to which he has so wisely devoted himself. He is now serving as justice of the peace of his township, which demonstrates clearly the confidence his friends repose in him for one so young), Oscar (born August 28, 1866, resides at Gandy, Logan County, Neb. He has chosen printing as his occupation in life, and is editor of the Logan County Pioneer). In 1874 Mrs. Peck and her husband immigrated to Nebraska, arriving in Batin Township April 10, 1874. At that time there were very few inhabitants, and antelope, deer, wolves and other wild game abounded. Mr. Peck filed a homestead of 160 acres, built a cabin, and here he and family made their home. They experienced all the hardships and vicissitudes of pioneer life, passed through the grasshopper scourges, prairie fires, and other severe trials, which were enough to discourage any heart, but Mrs. Peck bore up under her numerous trials and difficulties with great fortitude and determination. In 1880 Mr. Peck was stricken with the typhoid and intermittent fever, and died the same year. She and husband were earnest supporters and members of the Adventist Church, having joined the society in Ashburnham, Mass. Besides the original homestead, Mrs. Peck owns 160 acres of railroad land lying just south of her homestead, most of which is under cultivation. She resides among her children, comfortably situated and surrounded by her many friends, who hold her in high esteem, and it is her expectation to pass the remainder of her life in Nebraska. She is an intelligent and educated lady, and is well informed in business matters as well as in the current issues of the day.

William Pettit was born in Ohio, in Athens County, September 22, 1840. His father, Daniel

Pettit, a son of Thomas Pettit, a teacher by occupation, and one of the first educators in Morgan County, Ohio, was born in Pennsylvania in 1811, but at the age of twelve years left his native State with his parents, going to Zanesville, Ohio, in 1823, where they were among the first settlers. Daniel Pettit grew to manhood in Morgan County, and after reaching years of discretion chose farming as his occupation through life. He was married in Athens County, Ohio, to Miss Caroline Shaw, daughter of Dr. John L. Shaw, a pioneer of Marietta, Ohio. After his marriage, Mr. Pettit entered land in Athens County, where he farmed until 1855, at that time moving to Lawrence County, and there resuming farming operations until 1885, when he came to Nebraska, and has since made his home with our subject. He was called upon to mourn the death of his wife in October, 1842, and afterward took a second wife. William Pettit grew to manhood in Athens and Lawrence Counties. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Fifth West Virginia Infantry, and served until August, 1862, when he was discharged for disability. He enlisted as private, but was soon promoted to corporal, and did a good deal of scouting and guard duty. The year following his discharge he spent in teaming and farming, following this business until 1868, when he came to Omaha, remaining there until the fall of 1870, when he came to Webster County and homesteaded the land on which he now lives, on the Republican River. He afterward purchased 160 acres more, making him a fine farm of 320 acres, nearly all of which is fenced. Of this land 200 acres are farm land and under cultivation, while the balance is meadow and pasture land. Mr. Pettit has a good two-story residence, good barns, cribs, sheds, wind-pump, stock scales, etc., and a fine young orchard of over 100 trees, all select fruits. When Mr. Pettit commenced here, he knew absolutely nothing about farming, but has succeeded well as an agriculturist, all of his possessions having been made here on the farm. He raises good graded stock, and has some pure Berkshire hogs. In Sarpy County, Neb., February 27, 1871, Miss Lucy M. Pusey, a native of Hartford County, Md., but reared and educated in Nebraska,

a daughter of Eliphaz Pusey, became his wife, and their family now consists of Orpha (a young lady), Ida, Amy and Martha, and Frankie Martin (thirteen months old, a child of Mrs. Pettit's sister). Mr. Pettit is a Master Mason, and belongs to the G. A. R.

Alex. Phillips is another of the substantial farmers of this section. He is a native of Delaware, born October 24, 1838, a son of Charles and Leo (Taylor) Phillips, the latter a native of Delaware. Charles Phillips came to the States when a lad of eight years, with his parents, and grew up in Delaware, there married and for a number of years after his marriage made that State his home. He was a cotton manufacturer in Delaware up to 1857, when he moved his family to Iowa, locating on a farm in Delaware County, and tilled the soil at that place until 1887, at that time moving his family to Dakota, where he now lives. His first wife died in Delaware in 1839, and he afterward married again. Alexander Phillips was nineteen years of age when his parents moved to Iowa, and he accompanied them to that State, remaining at home until the outbreak of the war. He had the advantages of a good common-school education in Delaware, supplemented by a course of six months at St. Mary's College. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, serving until discharged in January, 1862. August 15, 1862, he re-enlisted in Company K, Twenty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, as corporal, and served as such until his final discharge, July 24, 1865. During his last enlistment he participated in the battle of Hartsville, Mo., was at the siege and surrender of Vicksburg, and in the Mobile campaign. At Vicksburg he received a slight scalp wound, and was struck by a shell and permanently disabled, while at Spanish Fort, Ala., he was struck over the eye with a piece of shell and received other injuries. At the close of the war he returned to his home and engaged in farming until 1873, at which time he came to Nebraska and located in Webster County in June of that year. He took up the homestead on which he resides, which he has now all fenced, cultivating about seventy-five acres, the rest being pasture and

meadow land. His good substantial residence, large barn, cribs, sheds, etc., etc., all show him to be the thrifty and industrious man he is. He has a young bearing orchard of 200 choice trees, besides a quantity of small fruits. He is a Republican in his political views, and has ever supported the men and measures of his party, and has held several offices of local public trust, such as road supervisor, a member of the school board, etc. On December 25, 1866, Mr. Phillips and Miss Mary McCartney became husband and wife. She was born, reared and educated in Delaware, and was a daughter of Nicholas McCartney. They were the parents of five children, but four of whom, James H. (a young man), Emma E., Mary A. and Charles A., are now living. Catherine died February 21, 1882, in her sixth year. Both Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are advocates of the Church of England. Mr. Phillips belongs to the G. A. R., and has served as commander of his post, as well as in other official capacities.

Clare L. Pope, a leading and representative citizen of Blue Hill, Neb., is cashier of the State Bank of that place, and has identified himself with the progress and development of the county since 1879. He was born in Waupaca County, Wis., January 28, 1859, being a son of Albert and Margaret (Olmstead) Pope, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Kentucky. They were among the first settlers of Wisconsin, and in his native county the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood. He was taught the details of farm labor by his father, but at the early age of sixteen years he began teaching school in the home district, and at nineteen years of age entered the State Normal School, at Oshkosh, Wis., which institution he attended one year. In 1879 he came to Nebraska, and first located at Red Cloud, and during the remainder of that and the subsequent two winters he followed the calling of a teacher. The summer of 1880, also a part of the summer of 1881, he was engaged in the implement business at Blue Hill, and from June of the latter year until June, 1885, he held a position in the Blue Hill Bank, first as clerk and finally as cashier. In 1885 he became a member of the banking firm of Dodds, Thompson

& Co., acting as cashier, but in the fall of that year the bank was incorporated under the name of the State Bank, with Mr. Pope as cashier, a position he has held ever since. He is a man who has been identified with every worthy enterprise, and one whose intelligence and industry admirably fit him for the position he is now filling. He was married May 25, 1887, to Miss Maude M. Williams, a native of Holt County, Mo., born December 29, 1865, a daughter of William H. Williams, and to their union two children have been born: Roslyn and Roy. Mr. Pope is a Democrat in his political views and socially is a member of the A. O. U. W.

Jacob B. Potter, of the firm of Columbia, Potter & Hyler, proprietors of the Guide Rock Mills, was born in Tioga County, N. Y., June 28, 1833, a son of Cornelius and Hannah (Barber) Potter, both natives of the "Empire State." His father was a millwright, and followed that occupation in New York all his life, dying in that State in 1877; his widow survived him several years, and her death occurred in Nebraska. Jacob B. Potter grew to manhood in his native State, and after reaching the proper age, he learned the millwright's trade of his father, and followed that business in New York for several years. He came west in 1872, and located in Webster County in 1873, the following year taking up his homestead. In 1875 he built the Red Cloud Mill. He was one of the original owners of this mill, and ground the first grain in Webster County. He afterward disposed of his interest therein, and returned to his farm, subsequently (in 1888) purchasing a one-third interest in the Guide Rock Mill. This is a first-class roller-process (Mr. Potter having put in the roller process last year) water-mill, being run by the Republican River, and has a capacity of sixty-five barrels per day. While Mr. Potter works at his trade, his sons run the farm. Mr. Potter was formerly a Republican, but latterly votes with the Prohibition party. He is also a local Methodist Episcopal minister, and has preached for thirty years. He was married in Tioga County, N. Y., in October, 1854, to Cynthia J. Thornton, a native of Pennsylvania, but reared and educated in New York, a daughter of Thomas and Lydia Thornton,

and their wedded life has been blessed in the birth of four children (three of whom are still living) as follows: John J. (married, and a resident of this county), George I. and James (young men living at home) and Elmer E. (who died in 1878, in his seventeenth year).

James D. Post, ex-sheriff of Webster County, was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1836, a son of J. W. Post, then a draftsman and describer of that city, but who removed to Illinois, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits when the subject of this sketch was still a child, and here James D. was reared to manhood, and received a good common-school education. He remained at home until he had attained his twenty-first year, when he caught the gold fever and immigrated to California and prospected for gold with moderate success until 1865, at which time he returned on a short visit to his friends in Illinois. He soon returned to Denver City, Colo., and prospected for gold for about three years, and made considerable money. While at this place he paid at the rate of \$3 per meal for board. Flour was sold for \$150 per sack. After spending three years in search of Dame Fortune, he went to Adair County, Mo., and resided there for four years, and while here was married to Miss Sarah A. Stanley, a native of Iowa. Seven children have been born to this marriage, one of whom, Jane, a bright little girl, died when she was three years old. Those living are William, Robert, James, Martha M., John and Hulda. In 1873 Mr. Post came to Red Cloud and entered a homestead four miles northwest of this place, and at the same time opened a livery stable, which he ran for eight years. He built a habitable house, and opened the first livery stable in Red Cloud. He has since sold his homestead and interests in Red Cloud, and purchased his present property, consisting of 200 acres of land; he also owns 160 acres of land in Nuckolls County. In 1887 he opened up a livery stable in Cowles, and now carries on a good livery business in connection with his farming interests. He makes a specialty of raising mules, and sells some few each year. Since his connection with Webster County, Mr. Post has served one term as sheriff, and made a very efficient officer. His father, J.

W. Post, was born in Orange County, N. Y., and for fourteen years held a position as draftsman and describer in the patent office at Washington. Later he moved to Baltimore, and finally to Illinois. His ancestors were Low Dutch. He was married in York County, Pa., to Miss Hulda Jones, a native of that county and State, and by her became the father of five children, the subject of this sketch the eldest, all of whom grew to maturity. Three sons served in the Federal army during the late war—two were killed, and the other has been disabled ever since.

William Cubberly Richardson, one of the substantial farmers of this section, residing on Section 2, Harmony Township, owes his nativity to Ohio, where he was born in Hamilton County, January 11, 1821, receiving his education in the subscription schools of his native State and Indiana, to which latter State he immigrated when he was seventeen years of age, locating in Bartholomew County. He was very popular with his constituents while here, and was solicited many times to accept prominent positions, but each time modestly declined. He served one term as township trustee, and filled this position so satisfactorily that he was urged to accept the office a second time, but declined. He was united in matrimonial bonds in Bartholomew County to Miss Mary Ann Lee, a native of the "Hoosier State," and to their wedded life were born these children: Zurelda, Garah, James, Jane, Clara, Thomas H., Charles E., William and Alice. The eldest, Zurelda, was married to J. Norton, and lives in Indiana; Garah is an attorney at law, is married and resides in Springfield, Mo.; James is married and lives in Indiana, where he works at his trade, that of a carpenter; Jane married M. Snyder, a farmer and engineer, and resides in Blue Hill; Clara is now the wife of E. Mouser, a successful agriculturist; Thomas H. was born February 26, 1861; Charles E. was born December 1, 1862; William died when he was three years of age, and Alice died in her fifth year. Mr. Richardson owned 240 acres of land in the Wabash Bottom, which was oftentimes flooded by the frequent overflows of that river, and in 1878 traded this land for 326 acres of land in Harmony

Township, which he has since greatly improved, and on which he has about 150 good bearing fruit trees. Mr. Richardson has always been a Democrat, and has been active in the interests of his party, casting his first vote for "Old Rough-and-Ready"—Zachary Taylor. He recalls the terrible panic of 1837, when the people's minds were displaced by the tremendous failures. During his early life Mr. Richardson labored at his trade, that of carpenter and joiner, but later in life engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he is following at present. He was an ardent member of the Farmers' Grange, and is now a member of the Alliance. He has been twice married; his first wife died February 13, 1869, and on August 17, 1874, he was wedded to Mrs. Maria Perry. He formerly belonged to the United Brethren Church, but he and his wife both now belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is now spending his remaining days in peace and happiness, and is enjoying the best of health.

W. N. Richardson. The name that heads this sketch is that of one of the most extensive stockmen in the West. It is certain that no other man, or even firm in Nebraska approximates him in the magnitude of his business and it is a question whether he is equaled by any other one man, similarly occupied, in the United States. Mr. Richardson is a native of New York, born in 1840, a son of N. B. and Hestor A. (Mix) Richardson, both natives of the "Empire State," the former of Scotch descent. The father is engaged in the banking business at Warren Ill. The mother died in 1887. They were the parents of thirteen children. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Illinois, receiving a limited education, and at the age of seventeen years commenced business on his own account as a stockman, at which he continued very successfully in Illinois until 1866. While there he was married. In 1866 he went west, traveling over the plains, and became acquainted with the location of the chief cattle dealers and their herds. He came to Webster County, Neb., in 1871, and located a portion of the land on which the town of Red Cloud now stands. He formed a partnership with Gov. Garber, and together they opened a mercan-

tile business at Red Cloud, which business they conducted jointly until Gov. Garber was called to public duties in the State. The partnership lasted for some years after Silas Garber was called away. Mr. Richardson finally sold his mercantile interests and gave his whole attention to the stock business, with silent interests in other branches. He came to Red Cloud with no means, but understanding thoroughly the stock business, and with sufficient business tact to adapt himself to any vocation, he has pushed himself forward until he individually has but a vague idea of the number of dollars he spends annually in the cattle business. He is now feeding 800 head of cattle, besides having many out on shares, and buying and selling by the herd in the west. He has operated in nearly all the Western States and Territories. He is well known among the Western herders and cattle raisers. He always has any amount of cattle on his word. He always keeps his word, and takes the cattle for which he bargains regardless of consequences. Mr. Richardson is a man who is trusted with perfect confidence by all who know him, and is one of Red Cloud's pioneers, and his extensive business is duly appreciated by Red Cloud and surrounding country. Mr. Richardson has been twice married. His first wife died December 10, 1884, leaving two children: Winifred and Lloyd. His second wife was a Miss Bessie Tagge, and by her he is the father of two bright and interesting little girls: Norma and Margaret. In secret societies Mr. Richardson belongs to the Blue Lodge A. F. & A. M., and is a K. of P.

Alexander Riley. In the development, growth and improvement of Webster County, the Riley brothers have taken a prominent part, and are worthy a place in this volume. Their father, Isaac Riley, was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1818, a son of Alexander Riley, and grew to manhood, married, and raised his family in his native State. He was a farmer by occupation. His wife, before marriage, was a Miss Catherine Ortmann, also born in Ohio, in 1819. To their union have been born nine children, viz.: Alexander, John, Alcetas, Ann M., Martha J., Austin, Sarah C., Nancy and Charles W. In 1850 Mr. Riley immigrated to Johnson

County, Iowa, taking his family with him, and here he has followed agricultural pursuits very successfully ever since. His wife died in Johnson County, Iowa, in 1862. In politics the senior Riley sides with the Democratic party. Alexander Riley, the eldest child born to Isaac and Catherine Riley, first saw the light in Ross County, Ohio, January 11, 1842. When he was eight years of age his father moved to Johnson County, Iowa, and here our subject was reared to manhood, and received a common-school education. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, and the following year took part in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion's Hill and the siege of Vicksburg. He was on the Red River expedition with Banks, and in the battle of Yellow Bayou. He was taken prisoner at Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864, and confined in Libby Prison and Belle Isle. He was paroled and exchanged December 18, 1864. August 12, 1865, he was sent to Davenport, Iowa, and there received his discharge, after serving faithfully and well for over three years. He was mustered in as second corporal, and discharged as fifth sergeant. He returned to Iowa, and settled in Iowa County, where his father was then living, and engaged in cultivating the soil. He was there married, on December 4, 1866, to Martha A. Flint, the daughter of Silas Flint. Mr. and Mrs. Riley have had born to them three children—two boys and one girl—namely: Frank M. (born July 13, 1873), Elvira R. (born June 4, 1875) and Mark A. (born September 4, 1878). After a happy wedded life of twenty-three years, Mrs. Riley passed to her final home, on May 27, 1879. She was born in New Hampshire, and at an early age became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and at her death was a firm believer in the doctrines of that church. In January, 1881, Mr. Riley was again married, this time wedding Miss Mary E. Dunham, daughter of Jonathan Dunham. Both he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Riley affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in local politics. In 1872 he was elected supervisor, and has since served several times as treasurer of the school board. In 1871 he immi-

grated to Nebraska, locating in Webster County, and May 19, 1871, homesteaded the first 160 acres of land entered in the county; to him also belongs the honor of building the first frame house ever erected in this part of the county. Mr. Riley came to Nebraska with the expectation of making it his permanent home, and to this end has placed the land under good cultivation, erected neat buildings, has planted a grove and an orchard, and has made many improvements. He cultivates 160 acres of land, and is engaged extensively in the raising of cattle, horses and hogs. Mr. Riley is among the honored and honorable pioneers of Webster County.

John O. Riley, a prosperous farmer, and an extensive stock-raiser living on Section 14, Township 4, Range 9, Webster County, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on April 14, 1843, the second of nine children born to Isaac, and Catherine (Ortman) Riley. [For parentage see sketch of Alexander Riley immediately preceding.] He was a lad of seven when his parents decided to try their fortunes in the west, and removed to Johnson County, Iowa. There John grew to manhood, passing his youth in agricultural pursuits and in attending the common schools. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E, Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry. He took an active part at Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss., and on the Red River expedition. After serving his country loyally and well for three years, he was discharged in July, 1865, and immediately after his discharge returned to Iowa, resuming farming operations there until 1871, when, in May of that year, he came to Nebraska and entered the farm on which he now lives. He homesteaded 160 acres of land, on which he immediately commenced improvements, and to-day has one of the finest places in the county, with a beautiful grove and a fine orchard. When Mr. Riley first located on the place, game of all kinds, deer and buffalo were plentiful, and his nearest trading post was Grand Island. In 1872 he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine R. Morton, daughter of Juster and Polly (Lewis) Morton, born in Iowa, on September 18, 1853. Her parents were born in Ohio and Indiana, respectively, and

both died in Iowa. Eight children have blessed their union; six are still living, and two dead, namely: Edith A. (born September 9, 1873), Isaac J. (born August 15, 1875), Jay M. (born January 11, 1878), Guy J. (born December 19, 1880), Charles C. (born August 21, 1882, died in 1885), Pearl O. (born January 14, 1885, died in 1885), Archie (born November 30, 1886) and Cecil A. (born April 17, 1889). In politics Mr. Riley is a Democrat. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and the G. A. R., affiliating with C. A. Arthur Post No. 242, Lawrence, Nuckolls County, Neb. He has been on the school board in District No. 5, and takes an active interest in school and church matters, as well as in all things for the good of the community.

Alcetas Riley owes his nativity to Ross County, Ohio, where he was born in 1844, the third child born to the union of Isaac and Catherine (Ortman) Riley. [For parentage see sketch of Alexander Riley.] At the age of six years he went with his parents to Johnson County, Iowa, and remained with his parents on the farm until he had reached his seventeenth year, when he left home to learn the blacksmith's trade. This occupation he followed in Iowa for eight years. In 1871, in company with his two brothers, Alexander and John, he came to Webster County, homesteaded the land on which he now lives, and "backed it" for the next six years. Becoming tired of single blessedness he persuaded Miss Mary H. Laird to share his lot, and on March 22, 1877, they were married. Their wedded life has not been blessed with any children, but seven years ago they adopted two children, Ida M. and Charles A., now sixteen years and twelve years of age, respectively, who lend gladness to their home. Mrs. Riley was born in Pennsylvania in 1838, the daughter of Samuel Laird. Mr. Riley owns his original farm of 160 acres of land, which is now well improved, with a nice grove and orchard, and good buildings, and is extensively engaged in raising stock. He has seen the entire growth and development of the county from the start, for he came here when the country was wild and but thinly inhabited; he did his trading at Beatrice and other distant points.

He has been very successful since his location (chiefly the result of his own hard labor and good management), and is well satisfied to make his permanent home in Nebraska. In his political views Mr. Riley affiliates with the Republican party, and takes a deep interest in local politics. He belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and the I. O. O. F.

Austin Riley was born in Johnson County, Iowa, March 26, 1853, the seventh child born to Isaac and Catherine Riley, previously referred to in the sketch of Alexander Riley. He was reared on the farm, attending the common schools of his county, and finished his education at the Blairstown Seminary, under the management of the German Reformed Church. At the age of seventeen he started in life on his own account by engaging in agricultural pursuits in his native State. In the spring of 1874 he immigrated to Webster County, whither his brothers, Alexander, John and Aleetas, had immigrated in 1871, and homesteaded 160 acres of land in Section 20, Oak Creek Township. The same year he entered the place on which he now lives, and subsequently purchased eighty acres of railroad land. In 1876 he married Miss Emily M., daughter of J. D. Morton, of Iowa County, Iowa. She was born February 2, 1857. Their union has been blessed in the birth of nine children, viz.: Nettie V. (born November 28, 1878, died August 18, 1879), an infant son (born October 14, 1879, died October 15, 1879), Jessie H. (born January 10, 1881), Preston C. (born August 13, 1882), Florence G. (born May 19, 1884), Oliver E. (born June 23, 1885), Lewis O. (born May 8, 1887), Edith A. (born September 10, 1888) and Isaac (born February 8, 1890). The improvements on Mr. Riley's place are much above the average. He has a fine young orchard, a comfortable house, commodious barns, granaries, etc. He is extensively engaged in farming, but devotes considerable attention to stock-raising—horses, cattle, mules and hogs. Mr. Riley votes the Democratic ticket, and is interested in all matters pertaining to the good of the community. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is now serving as president of the same.

Charles D. Robinson is a young man who possesses those attributes which are essential to a successful career through life—honesty, intelligence and perseverance—and is now the efficient cashier of the Blue Hill Bank. He was born in Prophetstown, Whiteside County, Ill., May 8, 1858, and is a son of Edward B. and Nellie J. (Thomas) Robinson, who were born in Vermont and Connecticut in December, 1833, and August, 1837, respectively. Their marriage occurred in 1855, and of seven children born to them Charles D. is the second, and four sons and a daughter are now living. The parents are residents of Hastings, Neb. The paternal grandparents are Benjamin and Mary (Dodge) Robinson, the latter of whom was born in England, and the maternal grandfather, Albert Thomas, was born near Hartford, Conn. When Charles D. Robinson was between five and six years of age, his parents removed to Wyanet, Bureau County, Ill., where his boyhood and early youth were spent. He attended the common schools until he reached his seventeenth year, and in the spring of 1876 he entered Rutledge's Boys Grammar School, of Philadelphia, Pa., which he attended two years. Upon returning to Illinois, he, for one year, acted as assistant postmaster at Sheffield, but resigned this position, and in February, 1879, went to Leadville, Colo., where he secured the position of mailing clerk in the Leadville postoffice, which he held five years. His arrival in Blue Hill, Neb., occurred in March, 1884, and he almost immediately formed a partnership with his brother, Thomas A., in the grocery business, the firm being known as Robinson Bros., and continued until the spring of 1886. In August, 1888, Mr. Robinson became book-keeper in the banking firm of Simpson & Martin, and upon the organization of the Blue Hill Bank, August 1, 1889, he was made its cashier, and has held the position ever since. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., is a Republican in politics, and is one of the enterprising and wide-awake young business men of this section. He was married February 28, 1889, to Miss Edith Wilson, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Moses Wilson, of Hastings. Their union has resulted in the birth of one child, Bruce.

Claas Rose. Of the many substantial citizens of Webster County of foreign birth, none are more worthy of prominent mention than Claas Rose, who was born in Germany in 1843, and now lives on Section 29-4-9, Oak Creek Township. His father, Chris Rose, was born in Germany, there grew to manhood, subsequently marrying Miss Elska Christians, also born in Germany, by whom he had a family of four children, the subject of this sketch being the youngest, viz.: Lena, Matt, John and Claas. Both parents lived and died in their native land. The subject of this sketch, like all German boys, received a good education, and at the age of twenty years, in 1864, resolved to seek his fortune in the United States, and accordingly came to this country and located on a farm in Grundy County, Iowa. The year following (1865) he married Miss Jennie Show, daughter of John Show, and they are now the parents of nine children—six boys and three girls—viz.: Christian, John, Elso, Lammert, Lena, Harm, Jennie, Trina and Claas. Mr. Rose owned and farmed 120 acres of land in Grundy County for fifteen years, but in 1880 he sold his farm and interests and came to Webster County. Here he purchased 800 acres of good land, on which he has set out a fine young orchard and grove, and here he is engaged in farming on a large scale, while a creek running through his farm affords excellent facilities for raising stock, in which he is also extensively occupied. Mr. Rose is one of the largest farmers in the county and owns a splendid property, which has been accumulated by his own hard work and good management. He intends to establish a grain business at Rosemont (a small town on his farm) this year. He is now serving as treasurer of the school district, and like so many intelligent farmers of Nebraska, belongs to the Alliance. Mr. and Mrs. Rose are both members of the Presbyterian Church, he being one of the elders.

D. F. Rudd, the present competent foreman of the car repair shops of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, at Red Cloud, Neb., is a native of the "Hawkeye State," born in Keokuk in 1848, a son of Johnson and Jane (Dickson) Rudd, who were born in the "Green Mountain State" and

England, respectively. D. F. Rudd is one of three children, and in youth learned the occupation of farming from his uncle, Fayette Rudd, which occupation continued to receive his attention until he was twenty-one years of age. He then came to Thayer County, Neb., took a claim which he proved up, then engaging in the livery business, but in 1880 changed this occupation for that of railroad-ing, and has served in the capacity of foreman of the car works at Red Cloud since 1888. In October, 1864, he enlisted in the Fourth Iowa Battery, and served until the month of July, 1865, being under Gen. Cameron in Louisiana. He has always espoused the principles and men of the Republican party, and is financier of the A. O. U. W., of Red Cloud, a position he has held since its organization. He was appointed councilman of the First Ward, and served until 1889, when he was elected to the same position by the people, serving during the year 1889. His marriage to Miss Sarah J. Griffith was celebrated in the month of January, 1870, she being born in Calhoun County, Ill., a daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Griffith. Her union with Mr. Rudd resulted in the birth of eight children: Arvilla, Carl H., Maud B., Jennie M., John C., William F., David F., Jr., and George L.

William R. Ryker, farmer and stock-raiser, Beaver Township, Webster County, Neb. In compiling a correct history of Webster County, together with a brief sketch of its most progressive and prominent citizens, the name of Mr. Ryker should not be omitted, for he is one of the energetic and substantial farmers of this section, as well as one of the early pioneers. He is a native of the "Hoosier State," and was born in Jefferson County, July 6, 1842. His paternal grandfather was born in Pennsylvania, but moved to Indiana in the early days of its history, when Indians were still numerous, and cleared himself a farm out of the timber. Here his son, Peter V. Ryker, the father of our subject, was born, and here grew to manhood, subsequently marrying Miss Mary Ann Robins, also a native of Jefferson County, Ind., and afterward engaged very successfully in agricultural pursuits. He is now retired from active life, and makes his

home in Madison. His wife died in July, 1871, and he has since married again. William Ryker grew to manhood in his native State, remaining with his father until he had attained his eighteenth year, when, in July, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixth Indiana Infantry, which was the first regiment from Indiana to enter the service. Among the more important battles in which he was interested may be mentioned Shiloh, Liberty Gap, Chickamauga, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, siege of Corinth, besides many skirmishes. At Chickamauga he was wounded in the elbow by being struck by a shell, and was disabled and in the hospital for about two months. After being discharged, in September, 1864, he returned to his home in Indiana and remained with his father on the farm until 1869, when he came to Nebraska and settled in Nemaha County for about two years. In 1871 he came to Webster County, and in March of the same year took up his homestead, on which he now lives, consisting of 160 acres of good tillable land, all of which he has since fenced, and most of it under cultivation, and which is well improved with good buildings, a small orchard, etc. Here he bached for three years, when, December 27, 1874, Miss Addie J. Sabin became his wife, and they are now the parents of five children: Katie M., Guy M., Jay M., Hugh L. and Mabel G. Mrs. Ryker was born in Kenosha County, Wis., a daughter of John Sabin, who settled here about 1872. She and husband are both members of the Guide Rock Baptist Church. Mr. Ryker always votes with the Republican party, and has served one term as township supervisor and nine years as a member of the school board.

H. C. Scott, implement dealer, Red Cloud, Neb. The subject of this sketch first opened his eyes to this world in Vermilion County, Ill., February 25, 1841, and was the youngest of nine children born to William and Hannah (McEldowney) Scott, the former a farmer who emigrated from Scotland to America at an early day. He finally located in Vermilion County, Ill., where the subject of this sketch was born, and soon after that event took place the father died. During his last illness he would take medicine from none but his wife, nor

would he allow anyone else to wait upon him. At his death she was so worn out with watching and grief that she survived him only about three weeks, when she also died, leaving nine children, most of them very young, to the tender mercies of the world. The eldest daughter, who was married, continued to live on the old homestead, but the younger children all returned to Ohio to their Grandfather Scott, with whom they had been but a short time when he also died, and the orphans were scattered among different relatives. Our subject found a home with his aunt until he was fourteen years of age, and then went to Illinois and worked on a farm, first as a laborer (hiring out by the month), and later engaged in farming for himself. His sister, who had remained in Illinois on the homestead, has since died, as has also her husband, leaving the farm to the orphan children, and neither our subject nor his brothers or sisters have ever laid claim to any portion of it, but have left the children in undisturbed possession. In the fall of 1861 he commenced recruiting troops for the Federal service in Virginia, and was tendered the commission of captain. He transferred his commission as captain to a friend and procured a lieutenantcy for another, and these two made up the number of men he desired to raise for the Union. He was offered a captaincy in still another company, but this he refused, preferring to serve as private in the company he had raised. His faithful and strict attention to duty were soon noticed by his superiors, and he was deservedly promoted to the commissary department, later into the pioneer corps as sergeant, and finally received the commission of second lieutenant, and continued to serve as such until the close of the war. He served in Company G, under the command of Gen. Butler, and later under the command of Gen. John Gibbons, and took active part in many important battles. After the battle of Lynchburg, Mr. Scott and comrades lived on birch bark, beech bark and mountain tea for nine days and nine nights. He saw his comrades die of starvation, and laugh that death was calling them from such a life; one man with whom he had long been acquainted gave up and called for death to take him. Some flour was

found by one soldier, and the captain forced him to divide with the starving man, which he did very unwillingly. They could not at first get the man to eat any of the flour and water, and indeed were obliged to force his mouth open and make him take it. He recovered, and lived to be wounded in a subsequent battle, and is alive to-day. Mr. Scott also participated in the battles of Cedar Creek, Winchester, Gettysburg, Chichahominy, Chapman's Farm, Bermuda Hundred, Hatchie's Run, Petersburg, Appomattox Court House. At this latter battle he saw Lee's white flag go up, the first evidence to him of Union victory. He was tired and worn out, and lay down and took a sound sleep, and was awakened by the voices of the Confederate soldiers coming among them. He returned to Ohio at the close of the war, and engaged in tilling the soil for three years, then went to Illinois, and spent a year and a half in farming in that State, and in 1870 came to Red Cloud, when the town site was first laid out, and there was hardly a soul here. He took up a homestead four and one-half miles northwest of this place, and tilled the soil until 1885, when he gave up farming to accept the office of sheriff, to which he had been elected. He served four years in this capacity, with honor to himself and satisfaction to all the law-abiding citizens of the county. Mr. Scott is a splendid specimen of physical manhood and an individual of unusual strength. In his early years, when active and thin, he weighed some 200 pounds, but now weighs much more. After his term of office as sheriff was ended he opened his present business, and has since continued it, enjoying an extended and remunerative patronage. He still owns his farm, comprising some 240 acres of land. By his marriage to Miss Melissa McCaskey, a native of Ohio, born in Steubenville in 1860, he is the father of five children: George, Sarah, Lena, Edith and May. In his political views Mr. Scott is a staunch Republican. He belongs to the G. A. R., the I. O. O. F., and other societies.

F. P. Shields, editor and proprietor of The Webster County Alliance, was born in Illinois. He embarked in the newspaper business about 1880, and has been connected with some of the

leading Iowa journals, among which may be mentioned the Des Moines Leader and Ottumwa Press, Chariton Patriot and Lucas Recorder. Three years ago he put in the Leader plant at Blue Hill, a paper which is now in active operation. His latest journalistic effort was that of establishing The Alliance, at Red Cloud, Neb. This is a paper of vast importance to the farmer and laboring class generally. Mr. Shields bears the reputation among his brother publishers of being a successful newspaper man, and his editorial ability is recognized wherever he is known.

Edmond W. Shirley, farmer and stock-raiser, Stillwater Township, Webster County, is living on the northwest quarter of Section 16, Town 3, Range 9. Although born in the "Blue Grass State," Mr. Shirley knows very little about his native State, as his parents, Miletus and Irene (Johnson) Shirley, moved from Kentucky when he was but two years of age, and located in Boone County, Ind., where they engaged in tilling the soil, subsequently moving to Vermilion County, and in 1882 came to Webster County, Neb., where the father died in 1887. The mother is still living, and makes her home with one of her sons in Nuckolls County, Neb. Edmond W. Shirley was born in Scott County, Ky., in 1837, and was the oldest of nine children, their names being Edmond W. (the subject of this sketch), Melissa, Bede W., William B., Doc. P., Jemima J., Thomas M., Daniel and Ruhaney (deceased). Edmond W. Shirley started out on his own account by engaging in farming in 1858, and the same year was united in marriage to Miss Dolly Helton, daughter of Joseph and Millie (Smith) Helton, born in Kentucky in 1843, and immediately after settled on a farm in Vermilion County, Ill., remaining there until 1880, at that time coming to Webster County, Neb., and settling on the place where he now lives. He purchased school land and has since paid for it all. Mr. and Mrs. Shirley are the parents of nine children, eight of whom are living, viz.: Luella (married to Joseph Howe, and living in Webster County), Willis M. (died in 1863 in his third year), William B. (resides in this county, and is engaged in farming), Ida J. (is now Mrs. Teel, and

resides in Frontier County, Neb.), Joseph F. (resides with his father), and Rena M., Miletus T., Thomas C. and Minnie D. (all at home). Mr. Shirley and wife belong to the Christian Church. The former takes considerable interest in local politics, always votes with the Republican party, and has lately served on the school board. He belongs to the Alliance.

A. M. Simerson, farmer and stock-raiser, Blue Hill, Neb. Mr. Simerson owes his nativity to the Empire State, where his birth occurred in 1850, and he is now following a calling that has for ages received undivided efforts from many worthy individuals, and one that always furnishes sustenance to the ready worker. He was the youngest of four children born to Thomas T. and Mary Ann (Livingston) Simerson, natives also of New York State. In 1850 the father moved to Kilbourn City, Wis., engaged in agricultural pursuits, and made that city his home the remainder of his days. The mother died there in 1851, and the father ten years later. A. M. Simerson passed his early life in assisting his father on the farm, and became perfectly familiar with the details of farm life. He received his education in the schools of Jefferson and Walworth Counties, Wis., and began farming for himself in Rock County, of that State. In August, 1870, he was married to Miss Lucy J. Reynolds, a native of Polk County, Wis., and the daughter of Lewis and Maria (Snyder) Reynolds, natives of New York, who settled in Rock County, Wis., in about 1839. There they both passed the remainder of their days. A. M. Simerson farmed in Wisconsin until 1874, when he emigrated to Nebraska and opened up 160 acres of land in Silver Lake Township, Adams County, and in 1878 purchased 160 acres of land in Webster County. In 1883 he sold his homestead, and in 1882 moved to his present farm. He is now the owner of 240 acres of land, all in a good state of cultivation, and raises a good grade of stock, principally hogs. He takes an active interest in politics, votes with the Republican party, and is one of the representative men of the county. Mr. Simerson was a member of the school board in Adams County, and assisted in organizing the

school district. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and a man much respected and esteemed in the county. To his marriage were born two children: Lean Elsworth and Myrtie.

John Simpson, farmer and stock-raiser, Oak Creek Township, Webster County. Foreign countries have bequeathed to America some of her best and most brilliant citizens, and the Emerald Isle has not been behind in the quality of her contributions to the strong and vigorous growth of this country. To her Webster County is indebted for one of its prominent and successful agriculturists—John Simpson, who was born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1825, the third in a family of eight children, raised by William and Catherine (McMonigal) Simpson. William Simpson was born in Ireland, a son of John Simpson, and was there reared to maturity; after reaching years of discretion he learned the wheelwright's trade, at which he afterward worked in connection with carpentry and building. He married Catherine McMonigal in 1821, and by her became the father of eight children, viz.: Margaret, Catherine, John (our subject), William, Jacob, Mary A., Rebecca and Isabelle. He died at St. Johns, N. B., in 1853. The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood in Ireland, where he attended the common school, starting out for himself at the age of twenty-six, in 1851. The same year he was united in matrimonial bonds with Miss Elizabeth Jenkins, who was born in the same county as our subject, and the following year he and wife emigrated to America. He first located in Philadelphia, where he clerked for a number of years, first in a foundry and later in a general store. He remained here for four years, and then in 1855 he decided to seek his fortune in the west, and accordingly located in Stephenson County, Ill., where he farmed with varying success until 1873. At that time the tide of immigration to Nebraska had just set in; Mr. Simpson and family were caught in its current, which carried them away from his home in Illinois, and landed them in Webster County. Upon arriving here, he took up a "claim" of 160 acres, to which he has since added, until he is now the owner of 200 acres of excellent land, all of which is well im-

proved, with good buildings, a thriving orchard and grove, fences, etc. He is one of the pioneers of this section, having come to the county when it was entirely new, and he has not been behind in helping along its growth and improvement, which he has witnessed from the start. He has held a number of local offices of trust and honor, among them being that of road overseer, to which office he was elected in 1875, and held for six consecutive years. He was elected township assessor in 1887, and is now serving in that capacity, as well as that of township treasurer and collector, and for the last two years has been serving on the school board. He votes the Republican ticket, and takes a deep interest in politics, as well as in schools and churches, and all things for the improvement of the county. He and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church, and are highly esteemed and respected in the community, where they have lived an upright and consistent life for sixteen years. They have reared seven children to honest manhood and womanhood, and have lost two who died in infancy, viz.: William (who was born in 1852, is married and farms in Webster County), Rebecca J. (born in 1854, died in infancy), John (born in 1855), Theresa (born in 1857, is now Mrs. Holbrook of this county), Jemima (born in 1858, is now Mrs. James of this county), Alfred (was born in 1860), Edmund (born in 1862, is unmarried and at home with his parents), Charlotte (born in 1863, is now Mrs. Stevens), and the youngest child, Herbert (born in 1866, died in infancy).

Robert A. Simpson, a pioneer citizen of Blue Hill, Neb., and president of the Blue Hill Bank, is a native of Geneva, N. Y., and like most native New Yorkers has been industrious, enterprising and intelligent. His birth occurred on January 17, 1854, and he is a son of James P. and Amanda J. (Probasso) Simpson, the former of whom was born in Geneva, N. Y., April 19, 1829, a son of Robert and Julia Simpson, who were born, reared and married in Scotland, and emigrated to America in 1827. During their passage across the ocean, the vessel in which they sailed was shipwrecked at Anticosti Island, and the remainder of the distance had to be made in another vessel.

Mrs. Amanda J. (Probasso) Simpson was born in New York, July 16, 1831, being a daughter of Joseph Probasso, a Frenchman by descent. The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in his native city of Geneva, and received an excellent education in the public schools, graduating from the high school at the age of eighteen years. During his last year as a student he also acted as a tutor in the school he was attending, and immediately after graduation he accompanied his parents to Clinton County, Iowa, where, during the following six years he taught school in the winter and farmed in summer. In August, 1879, he determined to see what the State of Nebraska had in store for him, and during the following winter he taught school at the village of Dyer's Mill in Adams County. He came to Blue Hill in February, 1880, and is now a substantial and influential citizen of this place. Here he first engaged in the real estate business, but in December, 1881, he formed a partnership in the banking business with Frank A. Sweezy, and the firm of Simpson & Sweezy started a private bank. In September, 1885, Mr. Sweezy was succeeded by I. O. Martin, the firm becoming Simpson & Martin, and continued until April 1, 1889, when Mr. Martin was succeeded by John O. Burgess. The bank was organized as a State bank with a capital of \$50,000 on August 1, 1889, at which time Mr. Simpson was made president, a position he still holds. He was married September 27, 1881, to Miss Mary E. Miller, a native of Scott County, Iowa, born July 16, 1856, and a daughter of William C. and Mary J. (Speer) Miller, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson are the parents of an only son, Howard M., born September 13, 1882, and are members of the Presbyterian Church. The former is a member of the A. F. & A. M., the A. O. U. W., and in his political views is a devoted member of the Republican party. He has been a successful financier, and is the owner of 720 acres of good land in Webster and Adams Counties, besides valuable property in Blue Hill. He is one of the foremost men in securing the success of worthy enterprises, and his opinions on all matters of importance are sound and intelligent.

Albert C. Smith. The subject of this sketch is one of the early pioneers of Harmony Township, and resides on Section 14, where he is engaged in farming and stock raising on quite an extensive scale. Born in Niagara County, N. Y., on April 24, 1836, he was reared to farm life and received an excellent education, which has admirably fitted him for the practical issues of life. When he was six years of age his father moved his family to Rock County, Wis., and there engaged in farming and stock raising, and there the subject of this sketch grew to manhood. He was the third in a family of four—three boys and one girl—as follows: Jeannette (born in May, 1832, married Mr. George Plater, who enlisted in the "100-days' call," in the late war, took ill while in service, and died in the hospital at Memphis, Tenn., leaving a widow and four children, who now reside at Bradford, Wis.), Barrett H. (born in April, 1834, was married in New York, in 1864, to Miss Hattie Rose, a native of the "Empire State," by whom he became the father of three children, one boy and two girls. He has been a printer all his life, but has lately devoted his attention to farming, and is very successfully engaged in that occupation in La Prairie, Wis.), William A. (was born in July, 1841, received his education in the common schools of Wisconsin, and is now residing with his brother, Albert C., on their homestead in Harmony Township. Both are unmarried). In 1874 Albert C. Smith came to this county and purchased of George Douglass 160 acres, thirty acres of which were broken, and upon which was a cabin. He immediately took possession of the place, and has since brought it to its high state of cultivation. At that time the nearest market for grain was Beatrice, 120 miles distant. Now the rapid civilization and advancement of this wonderful State affords such railroad facilities that at present good markets and flourishing towns and villages are brought in close proximity. Mr. Smith's farm lies within two and one-half miles of Bladen, a flourishing little town of 300 inhabitants, with a thriving, enterprising populace of business men affording a good market for grain and live stock. Mr. Smith was a resident of Harmony Township when Hastings was but a

hamlet, and at Red Cloud there were only two stores, while Bladen was unknown. He has often seen the portions of tribes of the Omahas, Pawnees and Otoes passing his home. Mr. Smith is an active and interested member of the Farmers' Alliance, being also a member of the executive committee in his vicinity. The Alliance Association is an organization which is being built up strenuously by the representative and prominent farmers of the State of Nebraska, and promises to be a formidable enemy to all corporations, monopolies and cliques, which tend to pull the farmer down. The farmer feeds all, and if the mass of husbandmen hold together, they are bound to accomplish that which they have endeavored to perform. Mr. Smith has been an ardent supporter of all municipal affairs in his township and county. He has served as justice of the peace, and now holds the position of moderator of the school district, and staunchly upholds the upbuilding of the glorious free-school system of the banner State of Nebraska. He expresses himself as positively in favor of excellent and well-qualified instructors, and highly in favor of elevating the status of local education. Although not a member of any religious denomination Mr. Smith has been brought up under careful and Christian teachings, by parents who were strict adherents to the Congregational Church, and he holds a high regard for all religious institutions. He is a gentleman who strives to keep himself well posted upon the practical and political issues which are uppermost in the minds of the public, and is a close reader and observer of all important changes which take place in his State and county. Mr. Smith expects to pass his life in the State of his adoption—Nebraska; he is well fixed in life, and holds the confidence and high appreciation of all his friends and neighbors. He attends strictly to his home affairs, and lives happily and contented with his brother, William, on the homestead in Harmony Township, where he is ever ready to receive his friends with a cordiality which is characteristic of the gentleman.

Dr. William H. Snook, although young in years, has already acquired an enviable reputation

as a medical practitioner, and has built up a large and paying practice among the best class of citizens of the county. His native birthplace was Jefferson County, Iowa, where he was born on February 12, 1863, to Henry and Amy Snook, both of whom were Pennsylvanians, the former being the son of Peter Snook, the latter's father having emigrated from Germany, his native land, to this county in early times. Henry Snook was married about 1840, and of a family of eight children born to himself and wife, of whom the subject of this sketch was the youngest, three sons and two daughters are now living. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died in January, 1875, his wife passing from life in December, 1882. Dr. William H. Snook labored upon a farm in his native county in his youth, and after obtaining such education as could be had in the common schools, he, in the fall of 1881, entered Parson's College, of Fairfield, Iowa, graduating from the same at the end of three years. In the fall of 1884 he took up the occupation of teaching as a temporary pursuit and, altogether, taught six terms, five in Jefferson County, Iowa, and one in Seward County, Neb. While thus engaged, he began the study of medicine, and in the fall of 1886 entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Keokuk, Iowa, and graduated February 28, 1888, after attending two terms. He at once began the practice of his profession in Elmwood, Neb., making his home there until the fall of 1889, since which time he has resided in Blue Hill, where he is very well and favorably known. His marriage to Miss Netta Anstine took place on October 23, 1886, she being a native of Fond du Lac, Wis., born in 1865, a daughter of John and Ruth Anstine, the former, a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. Mrs. Snook is also a graduate of Parson's College, of Fairfield, Iowa, and for a number of years was a successful school teacher in the State of Nebraska.

Daniel Snyder is another of the enterprising and successful farmers of this section, and as such a brief outline of his life will be read with interest. He was born in Louisa County, Iowa, November 13, 1849, a son of Philip and Rebecca

(Thomas) Snyder, the former born in Germany, and the latter in Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in his native State, and in 1880 he moved to this county and purchased 160 acres of land, on which he has since erected a good house, barns, sheds, etc. He has been very successful since coming to this place, and as the result of his energy, industry and good management, has his farm well stocked and improved, and has one of the finest places in this township. January 9, 1882, Miss Mary Witter, a native of Switzerland, became his wife. Both he and wife are members of the Evangelical Church. Mr. Snyder is actively interested in politics, and votes the Republican ticket. He is now serving as constable and treasurer of Line Township, in which capacity he is giving perfect satisfaction, and is one of the prominent farmers of this section.

Norman Springer, farmer and stock-raiser, Bladen, Neb. Mr. Springer, one of the foremost and most successful agriculturists of the county, was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, in 1833, and was the fourth of ten children born to Benjamin and Rebecca (Mott) Springer, the father a native of New York, and the mother of Vermont. The parents were married in New York, moved from there to Ohio, and in 1838 to Illinois, where they resided until 1844, and then moved to Grant County, Wis. The mother died in Wisconsin in 1886. Norman Springer was reared to farm life, and educated in the subscription schools of Wisconsin, being obliged to walk a distance of five miles to get his education. At the age of twenty years he came west, and spent the winters in the pineries, and the summers freighting from Nebraska City to Fort Laramie, Fort Kearney and to all the principal trading posts on the frontier. He made two trips with Kit Carson across the plains to Fort Hall. His wagon train was burned by the Mormons at Green River in 1857. He remained on the plains from 1852 to 1869, freighting, and thus became familiar with the western country. He spent a few years in California and Nevada, engaged in mining, and was wounded by the Indians at Thirty-two-mile Creek, by an arrow in the shoulder. In 1869 he returned to the States, and for some time

was engaged in farming in Wisconsin. He was married in 1872 in Grant County, Wis., to Mrs. Martha Simons, *nee* Williams, a native of Grant County, Wis., and the daughter of Freeman and Elizabeth (Haywood) Williams, the father a native of Kentucky, and the mother of Missouri. Mr. Williams, when a boy, or in 1828, went to what is now Grant County, Wis. He was in the Black Hawk War, and served as a scout during the entire service. For three months he was an aid-de-camp for Gen. Dodge on the Bad Axe, and now resides in Grant County, Wis. Mrs. Williams died about 1865. After his marriage, Mr. Springer moved to Webster County, Neb., settling on his present farm, consisting of 160 acres, all well improved and well cultivated. He has a good bearing orchard of apple and cherry trees, and has all kinds of small fruit. He raises considerable stock and is a prominent farmer. He is active in politics, votes the Republican ticket, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church at Bladen, and he is one of the trustees of the same. The fruits of his marriage are as follows: Albert, Charles, Norman, Bliss, and Ada (who died in 1874 at the age of one year). By her former marriage Mrs. Springer has one daughter, Jennie, now Mrs. Serl, of Adams County, Neb. Mr. Springer has seen many changes since his residence in this county, and has ever been active in assisting in all laudable enterprises.

Henry A. Stevens, farmer and stock-raiser, Oak Creek Township, is living on Section 9, Town 4, Range 9. Agricultural pursuits have been Mr. Stevens' principal occupation in life, and the energetic and wide-awake manner in which he has taken advantage of all methods and ideas tending to the enhanced value of his property, has had a great deal to do with his obtaining the competence which he now enjoys. He first saw the light in Fulton County, Ill., in 1840, and was reared to manhood in McDonough County, same State. His father, a farmer by occupation, was born in Connecticut, and early in life immigrated to Ohio, and later to Illinois, where he married and raised his family. He wedded Miss Matilda Edson, a native of New York, born in 1818, and their wedded life

was blessed by the birth of nine children, the subject of this sketch the oldest, viz.: Henry A., Gilbert A., Milton, Julia, William F., James, Edward, Mariam and Eliza. The father died in Illinois in 1868, leaving a widow, who still survives and makes her home at Bushnell, Ill. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics Mr. Stevens voted with the Republican party. The immediate subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native State, his youthful days being spent in attending school in winter and assisting his father on the farm in summer. He was united in marriage to Miss Pamelia Molano, of Illinois, in 1862, who died after a brief wedded life of four years, leaving him two little children: Flora E. and Floyd (deceased). In 1876 Mr. Stevens was joined in matrimonial bonds to Miss Mattie Smith, who bore him two children: Charles (died young) and Nellie E. Mrs. Stevens died April 6, 1884. Mr. Stevens remained single until December 24, 1885, when he wedded Miss Charlotte Simpson, daughter of John Simpson, of Oak Creek Township, Webster County, and they are now the parents of an infant daughter, Pearl (born in 1889). Mr. Stevens came to this county in 1883, purchased land and stock, and in 1884 located permanently upon this land and commenced its improvement. He now owns 880 acres of good land, with about 500 acres under a high state of cultivation, and is extensively engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs. He and wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he being one of the stewards of Oak Creek Church, and both take an active interest in educational and religious matters. Mr. Stevens votes the Republican ticket, and takes a leading part in local politics. He is now filling the office of justice of the peace, and is serving on the school board. He is a Master Mason, affiliating with the T. J. Pickenn Lodge No. 307, and also belongs to the Alliance. His parents were among the pioneers of Illinois.

John Stout, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on Section 10, Harmony Township, Webster County, Neb. The subject of this sketch is one of those enterprising young men who came to Webster County in the early days of its history, while

it was still wild and uncultivated prairie, and who by their energy and perseverance have converted the broad and unbroken plains into fields of waving grain, and established for themselves and families good comfortable homes. He came here from Fayette County, Ohio, where he was born in 1851, and purchased 160 acres of land on which he has erected neat buildings, and has since engaged in agricultural pursuits, devoting considerable attention, however, to stock-raising, making a speciality of raising hogs. He was born on a farm, and was brought up as an agriculturist and stock-raiser, receiving a good common-school education, supplemented by a course at the academy at Merom, Ind., and with the exception of one year, when he was engaged in the agricultural implement business in Campbell, Neb., has been a farmer all his life. He is enterprising, and believes in lightening farm labor as much as possible, and to that end has his farm stocked with every kind of machinery for making easy the labors of an agriculturist. Mr. Stout was married in Fayette County, Ohio, to Miss Laura Mowser, and this union has been blessed with four children, all girls, viz.: Minta B. (thirteen years of age), Bertha I. (eight years of age), Florence A. (six years old) and Fay, an infant three months old. His father was born in Ohio in 1817, and died in 1873, leaving a widow who still survives. She was born in Warrington, Pa., in 1824. The paternal grandparents were massacred by the Indians near the Ohio River, in Kentucky. Mr. Stout has been a resident of Harmony Township since 1880, and ever since that time has entered heartily into the work of building up the interests of his township and county. Mrs. Stout received a liberal education in the common schools, and has taken a decided interest in the upbuilding of schools in her home district, as has also her husband. Mr. Stout is not a member of any secret organizations, but is in sympathy with certain orders; he is now serving as vice-president of his home Alliance. He has always identified himself with the Republican party. He is now residing at his comfortable home, surrounded by his wife and bright children, and will probably spend his remaining days here.

Matthew Stratton, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. Originally from England, Mr. Stratton was born in Huntingdonshire, on January 3, 1823, being a son of John and Sarah Stratton, *nee* Wooley, both of whom were born in England. When he was thirteen years of age his parents decided to try their fortunes in America, and accordingly, in 1835, they left Liverpool, England, for the new world, and January 3, 1836, landed at Evansville, Ind., where they were among the first settlers. Immediately after their arrival the father took up land and began a system of clearing and improving, and our subject remained at home until in his twenty-second year. His father's health failed him, and when he saw that he was going down, he divided his farm between his three sons, leaving Matthew Stratton the home place, where he remained (his mother living with him) until April 6, 1848. On that date he was married to Miss Lucinda Rebecka McClure, formerly from Ohio, but a resident at that time of Vanderburg County, Ind. They resided on the same farm until the year 1852, then selling the lands, and in March, 1853, went to Marshall County, Ill., and entered a piece of land. They also rented land and raised grain, during the years 1843 and 1844, while making preparations to build and break up land and get it ready for cultivation. In this time they had three children born to them—two sons and a daughter. In the year 1854 Mr. Stratton had the sad misfortune to be deprived of the companionship of his wife and infant son by death. His mother was still living with him. In the spring of 1855 his brother, James, went on his farm, and the family all stayed together for a time, but in 1855 our subject thought it better to make a change, and on July 3, 1855, married Miss Julia A. Martin, the daughter of Lewis R. and Phebe S. Martin. August 18, following, they settled on their own land, raised stock and improved a home and built a nice residence and a small barn, surrounded by a good hedge, and all under cultivation. When Mr. Stratton's two children were nearly grown, there not having been any children of his second union, they took two little orphan children, a son and a daughter, whom they raised to man and woman-

hood, and they are now settled near by and both have families. The son has one little child, Clarence; the daughter has two sons and a daughter. Mr. Stratton's own children were married in Illinois, and when he sold his possessions in that State, to come to Webster County, Neb., his son, John S., came with and settled near him; he has a fine farm. The mother remained in Illinois, with the brother, James. Soon after having left (that being March 13, 1871), she was taken sick and on April 9, 1871, she fell asleep in death. She was upward of eighty years old at the time of her death and belonged to the old Regular Baptist Church, of which she was a member for some thirty or forty years. Mr. Stratton crossed the Republican River, April 15, 1871, and went into camp until he could look around and see where to locate. Having settled on Sections 22 and 15, he took three-fortys from Section 22 and one from Section 15, and has continued to reside thereon ever since. May 2, 1871, he commenced to improve and had some very good corn that season and a vegetable garden, notwithstanding grasshoppers and drouth. Since then he has purchased 200 acres of fine land by the side of his homestead, making an excellent farm of 360 acres, all of which is fenced. This lies along the south side of the Republican River and south of Guide Rock Creek. There is plenty of timber, and water all the year round for stock. His daughter, Ada Jane Stratton, was married to a man by the name of Orange H. Bear, September 18, 1869. Her husband came later to this county, and now has a good farm. Last September he had the sad misfortune to lose his wife and oldest son by death, and is left with little children. The names of the two that Mr. and Mrs. Stratton raised (both of whom have been very dutiful children) are Thomas Franklin Taylor and Vicie I. Stratton Taylor. His present wife was born in Washington County, Ind., and her parents going to Morgan County, Ind., she was raised and educated there. Her parents moved to Illinois, where she was married to Mr. Stratton. She was formerly a member of the Disciples Church, and although not now a member, she is an earnest believer in the doctrine advanced by that denomination.

John Street, farmer and stock-raiser, Red Cloud, Neb. Located in the midst of one of the finest agricultural centers of Webster County, the farm that Mr. Street owns and occupies is conceded to be among the best in this vicinity, and this is saying not a little, for on every hand are to be seen superior places, whose ownership indicates thrift and prosperity. Mr. Street was born in Ross County, Ohio, on February 12, 1839, and is the son of William and Elizabeth (Coe) Street, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. John Street moved with his parents to Macon County, Ill., in 1851, and there attained his growth and received his education. On September 19, 1867, he was married to Miss Lydia L. Hoffman, a native of Jones County, Iowa, born February 10, 1852, and the daughter of Henry and Martha (Anderson) Hoffman. Previous to his marriage, and at the breaking out of the war, Mr. Street enlisted in Company A, Twenty-first Illinois, under Gen. Grant, and served until the close of the war, four years and six months in all. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Franklin, Nashville, siege of Atlanta and siege of Corinth. His first battle was that of Fredericktown, Mo. In 1865 he was promoted to the rank of corporal. At the close of the war he returned home and as above stated, was married in 1867. To this union seven children were born: Madie E. (wife of William Reeves), Mattie E., Florence A., Alma J., Cora M., Willie H. and Fred E. In 1873 Mr. Street moved to Webster County, Neb., homesteaded 160 acres of land, and is now one of the prominent farmers of the community. He is a Republican in politics, holding the office of supervisor and assessor for several terms. He was the first supervisor of Garfield township, and was elected in 1885. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this township. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Organization, and is one of the representative men of the county, and one of its most successful farmers.

Henry Stumpenhorst, who is numbered among our representative farmers of foreign birth, originally came from Germany, where he was born in 1851, the third of five children born to John and

Catherine (Manning) Stumpenhorst, both natives of Germany, where the former worked at his trade, that of a shoemaker, married and reared his family, consisting of five children: Charles, Edward, Henry, Theodore and Caroline. The mother died in the old country in 1868, and in 1876 the father came to this country, settling in Pittsburgh, Pa., subsequently moving to Webster County, Neb., where he died in 1888. He served in the German army. Both he and wife were members of the Lutheran Church. The subject of this sketch attended school in his native land, and at the age of nine teen (in 1870) emigrated to this country, settling in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he engaged in blacksmithing, remaining in Pennsylvania until 1878, when he came to Webster County, Neb., and took up 180 acres, where he now lives. This land he has greatly improved by setting out a nice grove and orchard, erecting good buildings, etc., and now he has one of the nicest farms in the county. He has been very successful as a farmer, and has the satisfaction of knowing that all his property has been made by his own endeavor and hard work. In 1879 Mr. Stumpenhorst was united in matrimonial bonds with Miss Elizabeth Webber, a native of Germany, born in 1852, who came over to this country in 1874. She is the daughter of Henry Webber. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stumpenhorst are members of the Lutheran Church, and take a deep interest in all educational and religious matters. Mr. Stumpenhorst always casts his vote with the Democratic party. He served as road supervisor in 1889 to everybody's satisfaction. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and belongs to the Alliance.

Judge Frank A. Sweezy is well known to the readers of this volume, and owes his nativity to Riverhead, Suffolk County, N. Y., where he was born May 13, 1856. His parents, Isaac and Sarah (Perkins) Sweezy, were also born in that county, the former in 1817 and the latter in 1821. They were married about 1840, and eventually became the parents of six sons, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth. Four are now living. Mr. Sweezy was a worthy agriculturist by occupation, and passed from life in the year 1876, still survived by his widow, who resides in her native county.

Frank A. Sweezy attended school sufficiently during his boyhood days to acquire a good literary and business education, and although the early part of his career was spent on a farm, he devoted his leisure moments to the study of law, and at the end of three years was admitted to the bar at Sutton, Clay County, Neb., whither he had come from New York State in 1879. He practiced his profession for two years in Edgar, Clay County, Neb., but in October, 1881, he located in Blue Hill, which place has since continued to be his home. He was elected judge of Webster County in the fall of 1887, but resigned his position for business reasons before the expiration of his term. He then assisted in the organization of the A. M. Walters Investment Company of Blue Hill, in which he is a principal stockholder, and of which he has since been manager. He has kept up the practice of law during this time, and is recognized as one of the ablest practitioners at the Webster County bar. Judge Sweezy is a consistent member of the Congregational Church, the A. O. U. W., the M. W. A., and in politics is a Republican. In 1884 he was an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention. He was married June 26, 1878, to Miss Attie B. Edwards, a native of Riverhead, Suffolk County, N. Y., a daughter of George and Susan (Cook) Edwards. Their marriage has resulted in the birth of four children; the first was a son that died unnamed, and the others are Maron E., George A. and Frank E.

Lorenzo D. Thomas, farmer and stock-raiser, Cowles, Neb. Mr. Thomas is a typical Nebraska farmer, substantial, enterprising and progressive, and such a man as wields no small influence in the community where he makes his home. He came originally from Belmont County, Ohio, where he was born in 1846, and was the fifth of nine children born to Abram and Phebe (Lynder) Thomas, natives of Pennsylvania. The father has always followed agricultural pursuits, and in 1866 he immigrated to Cass County, Neb., where he resided for some time. He is now residing in Mills County, Iowa. The mother died in Nebraska in 1867. The paternal grandfather, was a soldier in the War of 1812. Lorenzo D. Thomas was educated in the

schools of Ohio, and early in life became familiar with the duties on the farm. He volunteered during the late war, but was not received into service. In 1871 he came to Webster County, Neb., from Cass County of that State, whither he had moved with his parents in 1866, entered land, and bached for two years, and erected the first log cabin in Elm Creek Township. In Webster County, in 1873, he married Miss Mary A. Chambers, a native of Knox County, Ill., and the daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Brown) Chambers, natives of the Buckeye State. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers moved to Illinois, and from there to Webster County, Neb., in 1873, where they both now reside, well advanced in years. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born five children: Elmer, Ida, Homer, Nicholas and Simeon Blaine. Mr. Thomas was one of three who first settled in the township, and he has seen the complete growth of the country. He is a staunch Republican in his political views. He is also deeply interested in educational matters.

Reese B. Thompson, farmer and stock-raiser, Cowles, Neb. The subject of this sketch was born in Synth County, Va., January 18, 1857, and is the son of R. B. and Susan C. (Morgan) Thompson, both natives of Virginia. He lived in his native State until he was fifteen years of age, then, in 1872, accompanied his mother to Dodge County, Neb., where they spent one year, and in February, 1873, they located on this land. Mrs. Thompson homesteading 160 acres, on which she resided until her death, which occurred in 1876. R. B. Thompson, Jr., has had full charge of the place since locating here, and to the original tract of 160 acres, has added 240 acres, making him a splendid farm of 400 acres, 320 of which lie in one body, and nearly all of which is fenced. He makes a business of buying and feeding steers. He is now devoting considerable attention to the breeding and raising of good horses, making a specialty of high-grade Clyde and Norman stock. He is the youngest of a family of six children—four sons and two daughters—all of whom grew to mature years, and four of whom are residents of Webster County. In his political views Mr. Thompson affiliates with the Democratic party, and has served

as supervisor, and in other local offices. In March, 1879, in Webster County, Mr. Thompson was united in matrimonial bonds with Miss Fannie Davis, a native of Illinois, who died in December, 1884, leaving one child, John V. Mr. Thompson married his present wife in July, 1887. Her maiden name was Miss Ida Bennett, and she was a daughter of C. C. Bennett, born in Iowa, but reared and educated in Nebraska. This later marriage has resulted in the birth of one child, Bernice May. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Thompson has been in partnership with his brother, John V., in the stock business since 1876. His brother is the owner of some 400 acres of land in Webster County, of which our subject has control, and has been farming it for a number of years. Since Mrs. Thompson's death, a beautiful cemetery is located where she rests, and is called Maple Grove Cemetery.

W. E. Thorne, farmer and stock-raiser, Bladen, Neb. Mr. Thorne is the owner of a fine farm of 1,440 acres, acquired under the homestead and pre-emption laws in part, and partly by purchase, and is a thrifty, industrious farmer, and as such is bound to push his way to the front. He was born in Jackson County, Mich., in 1851, and was the younger of two children born to W. B. and Deborah (Bowerman) Thorne, natives of New York and Massachusetts, respectively. They were married in the State of New York, and at an early day emigrated to Barry County, Mich., thence to Jackson County, of that State, and in 1872 to Webster County, Neb. The following year the father homesteaded 160 acres of land in Silver Lake Township, Adams County, Neb., and there resided for many years. He was quite a prominent man, and held many positions of trust, one being the office of county treasurer, to which he was elected in 1874, and which he held three consecutive terms. In 1882 he moved to Webster County, Neb., and there resided until his death, which occurred in November, 1888, at the age of seventy-two years. In politics he was a Republican. He always took a great interest in the G. A. R. post, and was a man who had the confidence and respect of all acquainted with him. The mother is still living. W. E. Thorne

was reared to farm life, received his education in the schools of Jackson County, Mich., and in 1871 emigrated west, and selected land in Webster County, Neb. Since 1872 he has made his home here. In 1876 Mr. Thorne's marriage to Miss Alice M. Maxwell was consummated, she having been a native of the Buckeye State, and the daughter of David D. and Susan (Ott) Maxwell. Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell were natives of Pennsylvania, and after living in Ohio, Illinois and Iowa for many years, they finally settled in what is now Logan Township, Adams County, Neb., and there the father died December 9, 1887. In 1862 Mr. Maxwell enlisted from Fulton County, Ill., in Company H, One Hundred and Third Illinois Infantry, for three years, and was in the Western army. He was in the battle of Chickamanga, Chattanooga, Kenesaw, Lookout Mountain, siege of Vicksburg, and was with Gen. Sherman on his march to the sea. He was at the grand review at Washington City, and was honorably discharged in 1865. Mr. Thorne kept bachelor's hall for about four years after coming to Nebraska, erected a log cabin, and improved his farm in every respect. He is now the owner of 1,440 acres of land, 800 acres in Webster County and 640 acres in Adams County, all joining and in a good state of cultivation. He raises considerable stock, and makes a specialty of Polled-Angus cattle and Norman and Morgan horses. He is a Republican in his political views, and is now the county surveyor, serving his second term. He was first elected to that position in 1873, serving three terms, and again in 1887, serving two terms. He has also been township treasurer. He assisted in organizing the school districts in his township, and aided in forming Glenwood precinct. Socially he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and of Juniata Lodge No. 42, Masonic fraternity. He was one of the first registrars in the county. He experienced the grasshopper raids of 1874 and 1875, and has made the principal part of his property since coming to this State. His marriage resulted in the birth of two children: Rose Mary and William LeGrand.

Prof. John R. Thornton, who, for the past five years has been principal of the Blue Hill High

School, was born in Macon, Ga., September 13, 1845, being a son of Pierce and Mary Thornton, both natives of New York. About 1847 the family moved to Washington County, Wis., and in this county the subject of this sketch attained manhood, his early youth being spent in following the plow. In 1860 he went with his parents to St. Louis, Mo., where, during the remainder of his youth, he was employed as a clerk. When seventeen years of age he entered the Wisconsin State University, which he attended four years, completing the junior year. In the meantime he had taken up the calling of a teacher, his first term being taught at the early age of thirteen years, and after leaving the university he resumed that calling and has followed it ever since with the best results. His professional labors have been performed in the States of Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska. He came to the latter State in 1884 and located at Blue Hill, where he has been principal of the high school up to the present date. Under his able management the school has made great progress, and it is now one of the best of the kind in this section of the State. Besides his regular work as principal, he has been an instructor in the Normal Institute for several years at Hastings and Red Cloud. He is a fine disciplinarian and instructor, and he and his family are highly respected by all who know them. He is a member of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association, and socially is a member of the K. of P. lodge. He was married on the 5th of May, 1872, to Miss Mary Gary, a native of Milwaukee, Wis. Their marriage has resulted in the birth of six children: Margaret, Mamie, Joseph, Lillian and Richard.

A. J. Tomlinson, importer and breeder of fine horses at Red Cloud, Neb., was born in Niagara County, N. Y., in 1850, being a son of John and Delight (Acker) Tomlinson, natives, respectively, of England and New York. The latter was a descendant of a member of the first German colony that settled in the United States during Puritan days. She, with her husband, moved to Dubuque, Iowa, in 1852, where they remained until the fall of 1854, at which time Clinton, Iowa, became

their home. The mother died in New York in 1870, but the father survives, being a resident of Red Cloud. A. J. Tomlinson was engaged in railroading pursuits until he came to Nebraska, in April, 1871, and upon his arrival in this State he settled in Webster County, where he has given his time and attention to agricultural pursuits. He was one of the first voters of the county, and at one time held the office of road commissioner for the entire county, and in company with the first county surveyor, Don McCollum, he assisted in laying out all the principal roads therein, which work consisted in throwing up mounds to a height of from two to two and one-half feet. Until 1886 he was interested in agriculture, but at that date he began to handle imported horses, and has given this his undivided attention up to the present, being connected with the well-known Moingona Importing Company, its headquarters being at Boone, Iowa. He has at present eleven head of registered horses at Red Cloud. Before closing this sketch of one of the county's best known citizens, mention should be made of the war record of John Tomlinson, his father. He enlisted in the service of the United States in 1861, becoming a member of Company M, First Iowa Cavalry, acting as regiment teamster for about eighteen months, after which he was discharged on account of disability, and returned home, where he remained eight or nine weeks. He then enlisted under Gen. Meigs at St. Louis, and was assigned wagon master and placed with Q. M. Gen. Lyman, who had charge of river and land transportation for the Lower Mississippi, remaining with Gen. Lyman over a year. He was, through disabilities received, discharged, after which he returned to his kindred and home. Very shortly after the last call the draft came, and Gen. N. B. Baker, then adjutant-general of Iowa, placed him on the draft list through a personal spite, and being unable, as was customary with many, to hire a substitute, he had to go to the front again. He was assigned to Company K, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry. Upon his arrival at the regiment he was there detailed as wagon-master, and ran the supply train of forty teams for the Fourth Division (Gen. Crocker's), which was in the Seventeenth

Corps (Gen. O. O. Howard's), taking part in the Meridian raid and in the engagements in which Sherman participated on his march to the sea. After the grand review at Washington, D. C., he returned to his home, almost a physical wreck, and has continued very much broken in health up to the present. He has never received compensation for his services otherwise than his salary while in the army.

Daniel Trine, farmer and stock-raiser, Webster County, Neb., was born in Lehigh County, Pa., September 28, 1837. His father, Peter Trine, was also born in Pennsylvania, in 1815; after he grew to manhood he successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in that State, and there was married to Miss Catherine Dunkel, born in 1805, by whom he became the father of six children, the subject of this sketch being the fourth in order of birth; their names are David, Catherine, Elizabeth, Flora, Daniel, Nathan and Eliza. The father is still living in Pennsylvania at the ripe old age of seventy-five years, but lost his wife in 1889. Daniel Trine spent his school-days and grew to manhood in his native State. During the late war he went to defend the flag, enlisting, in 1862, in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and took part in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Coal Harbor and Gettysburg. At the latter battle he was wounded in the right leg, below the knee, by a gunshot, and was laid up for three months, recovering and going back into the service in time to participate in the battle of the Wilderness; he also took part in the battles of Ream Station, Richmond, Petersburg, besides numerous skirmishes. Upon receiving his discharge, in 1865, he went back to Pennsylvania, and followed farming and blacksmithing in Mercer County for two years. He was united in marriage in 1868 to Miss Elizabeth Bash, eldest daughter of Jacob and Rebecca (Jones) Bash. Her parents are both living in Pennsylvania, where they are engaged in farming. Mrs. Trine was born September 18, 1842, the oldest of ten children, whose names are: John, Martha, Marion, Experience, Esther, Mariah, Theodotia, Jacob, George. After their marriage Mr. and

Mrs. Trine went to Taylor County, Ky., where they stayed three years, then went to Livingston County, Ill., and made their home near the town of Forrest for eleven years, and in 1884 came to Webster County, Neb., and purchased 160 acres of land, on which they now live, Mr. Trine devoting his attention to farming and stock-raising, at which he has been very successful. He has a fine young bearing orchard on his place, besides a good dwelling, barn, sheds, etc. To Mr. and Mrs. Trine have been born seven children, viz.: George (born February 13, 1869), Jane (born August 8, 1872), Edward (born February 8, 1874, and died in infancy), Williard (born January 9, 1876), Joseph (born October 13, 1879), Ella (born March 4, 1883) and Gertrude (born May 4, 1886). Mr. and Mrs. Trine are both members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Trine belongs to the Farmers' Alliance, and takes a deep interest in all the affairs of the community, at present holding the office of supervisor of roads.

D. F. Trunkey, judge of Webster County court, was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, in 1848. His mother died when he was a child, and his father married a second time, some time after which our subject left his home, at the age of fourteen, and went to Philadelphia, taking with him 40 cents in money and a scanty outfit of clothes; and whether or not the sea had previously possessed any special fascination for him, in order to earn a livelihood he took employment on a ship and made a trip to Germany. The life of a sailor seems, however, not to have pleased him, as he spent the money he had earned going out in paying his passage home. He returned to Ohio, but soon put out again, to Boston this time, where he engaged with a ship and went to New Brunswick for lumber, thence to Liverpool, England, thence to Wales, and for several years the high seas was his home. During this time he visited ports in all parts of the world. Just before he was twenty-one he gave up the life of a sailor, quitting the sea on the coast of California, San Francisco. From there he went on the White Pine mining expedition to Nevada, from there to Salt Lake City and the various mining camps in Utah, and thence returned to his home in Ohio. We next find him in the employ of a rail-

road company in Missouri, with Trenton for his headquarters. He rose rapidly in this employ, and is still a member of an organization of railroad conductors. In 1883 he came to Nebraska and purchased land close to Red Cloud, of which he still owns 320 acres, which he farms. As is evident from this sketch, Judge Trunkey has had no school advantages, but he has acquired a high intelligence by assiduous application at moments which others with greater opportunities have spent in idleness. In 1884 he commenced the study of law, entering the law office of James Gilham, of Red Cloud, was admitted to the bar in 1886, and in 1889 was elected county judge, which position he now fills with honor to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Judge Trunkey has experienced life in all its phases, from a penniless boy facing a strange world with no place to rest his head or obtain sustenance, to honorable citizenship with ample evidence of the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men, a happy family of children, and a home furnished with all the luxuries necessary to satisfy their desires and educate their tastes. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., M. W. A., I. O. O. F. and Order of Railway Conductors.

James A. Tulleys, vice-president of the Nebraska and Kansas Farm Loan Company, is a native of Ohio, born in Ross County, July 6, 1841, a son of Isaac and Catherine (Gray) Tulleys. His father was born in Virginia, of English descent, and was a contractor and builder by occupation. He was an exceptionally strong and healthy man, and died at the age of sixty-three years, of the only disease James ever knew him to be affected with. He was, politically, an old line Whig, but after the war was a Republican. He was radical in his opinions. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was an extreme Abolitionist. The mother was of Irish extraction, and lived to the advanced age of seventy six years. Both she and husband died in Ohio. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native State, and received a good high-school education, the course embracing the higher mathematics and the languages. At the age of sixteen years he taught his first school, and alternated in teaching and attending

school until the breaking out of the late war, when he joined the Twenty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving three years and one month. He was in the bloody fight at Atlanta on July 22, in which Gen. McPherson was killed; Island No. 10, and Corinth, Miss., Cross Roads, Tenn., and was in many other battles. He had the commission of captain offered him twice, but refused each time. After the war he remained at Memphis one year in the employ of the Government as clerk, in what was then known as the freedman's department. He then went to Illinois, but soon returned to his native State, and taught school for several years until 1871, when he came West. He remained in Iowa until 1872 and then came to Nebraska. The closest railroad point to Red Cloud then was Harvard, Clay County, Neb., and he traveled from Harvard to Red Cloud in a wagon. His first experience here was as a teacher in a pioneer school, held in a log cabin in this community; but his superior education soon procured for him a better position, and he was accordingly elected county clerk of Webster County in 1873, and served in that capacity for eight consecutive years, having previously served one year as deputy. During this time he had not failed to take advantage of every opportunity to prepare himself for the legal profession, but studied assiduously and was admitted to the bar soon after his term as clerk had expired. He practiced law until 1884, when the Nebraska and Kansas Farm Loan Company was organized, and he took charge of the same. He was secretary of the organization for some time, but is now its vice-president, and the entire business is practically under his management. Mr. Tulleys has made marked progress as a business man, yet he is better known in the State from the prominent part which he has taken in social organizations, and especially is he influential as a Mason. He was the first Master of the A. F. & A. M. in Red Cloud under dispensation, and the first under charter, the first high priest of the Chapter, and he is the first and only commander of the Knights Templar Commandery. He was elected grand master of the State, and served during 1880 and 1881. In 1883 he was elected grand high priest of the Grand

Chapter of the State. He is now an officer of the Grand Commandery of the State; is a Knight Templar in the York rites, and is a thirty-third degree A. & A. S. R. Mason. Mr. Tulleys has been twice married. He was married in Ohio to Miss Sophia J. Tulleys (same name as himself, but no relation), who died in 1880, after bearing him four children: Sarah Elmont, William Wesley, John Wayland and Sophie, the first three still living. In 1884 he was united in matrimonial bonds to Mrs. Anna Stover, and there have been two children by this last union: Annie and Cora.

James S. Turner, farmer and stock-raiser, Blue Hill, Neb. The parents of Mr. Turner, John and Mary Ann (VeNess) Turner, were natives of Woolwich, England, and the father was a ship-builder, working in the government ship docks. He left his native country and took passage for the United States, settling in Rock Island County, Ill., in 1856, entered forty acres of good land and bought eighty acres more. The mother died about 1866, and the father in 1876, on the homestead in Illinois. James S. Turner was born in the city of London, England, in 1829, and was the second of thirteen children born to his parents. He was reared and educated in his native city, and at the age of twenty years took passage for America and landed in New York, where he worked for some time. From there he went to Albany, took up farming, and from there to Rock Island County, Ill., where he engaged in farming until his removal to Nebraska. After reaching this State he purchased 165 acres of land, and has since made many improvements on the same. He was married in Moline, Ill., in 1869, to Miss Sarah F. Branch, a native of Massachusetts, and the daughter of Nicholas and Frances A. (Stone) Branch, natives of Connecticut. Mr. Branch was married in Connecticut, and there followed merchandising and book-keeping until 1856, when he removed to Moline, and was there engaged in book-keeping for a number of years. After this he was salesman of machinery, and in 1871 moved to Minneapolis, Minn., where his death occurred in December, 1882. The mother is still living and makes her home in Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. Turner has been

constable of his township, and in his political principles he affiliates with the Republican party. He is interested in educational matters, and has been a member of the school board. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and Mrs. Turner are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Blue Hill. To their union have been born the following children: Nicholas John, James Centennial, Frances, Arietta, Edwin Branch and Alfred Samuel.

Diedrick Vollers, Guide Rock, Neb. If the old country had not contributed largely to the population of the new, Nebraska would not have reached its present high state of development. Germany has furnished her full quota of excellent men, and among them Diedrick Vollers, a citizen of Webster County, honored and respected by all his acquaintances. Mr. Vollers was born in Oldenburg, Germany, November 16, 1828, a son of Albert and Gesiene Vollers, both natives of Oldenburg, the father being engaged in cultivating the soil in his native country until his death. The subject of this biographical mention was reared to manhood in Neuenhüttdorf, the place of his birth, and like all German youths, received a good education, after which he served for about six and one-half years in the German army. In 1857 he left the "Fatherland" and came to the United States, locating in Woodford County, and farmed for five years, returning to Germany on a visit in 1862. He remained in Oldenburg for some time, and then returned to Woodford County and resumed his farming operations at that place for ten years, when he sold out his interests in Illinois and removed to Webster County, Neb. Here he homesteaded 160 acres of good land, and has since purchased more, until now he is the fortunate owner of 800 acres of excellent land, nearly all in one body, and all fenced but 160 acres. Two hundred and seventy acres of this land are under a high state of cultivation, while the balance is meadow and pasture lands. He has a good frame residence, with good barns, cribs, stock sheds, etc. Here he is extensively engaged in stock-raising, and feeds his own cattle, of which he ships one car annually. Although he brought some money with

him to Webster County, Mr. Vollers has accumulated his possessions since his residence in this section, and is now considered one of the substantial men of the locality. On his return from Oldenburg the last time, Mr. Vollers was accompanied by his bride, to whom he was married in November, 1862. Her maiden name was Miss Catherine Wragge, and she was born, reared and educated in Oldenburg. Mr. and Mrs. Vollers are the parents of four children—two sons and two daughters—namely: Albert (a young man at home), George, Gesiene, and Mattie (a clever little miss of four summers). Both Mr. and Mrs. Vollers are consistent members of the Lutheran Church.

Adam Walker, farmer and stock-raiser, Webster County, Neb. Webster County is indebted to Germany for one of its substantial citizens, Adam Walker, who is residing on Section 27-4-10. Mr. Walker was born in Germany in 1841, the youngest in a family of seven children raised by Jacob Barnhard and Anna Barbara (Bower) Walker, both natives of the old country. The former was born in 1804, and married in 1829, his wife's birth occurring in 1802. She died in Fairfield County, Ohio, January 5, 1872, and her husband in Webster County, Neb., March 25, 1882. Of the seven children raised by this couple all are dead except Frederick, Rose and Adam (the subject of this sketch). Although he was born in the "Fatherland," Mr. Walker knows but little about his native country, as his parents emigrated to this country when he was a child of four years. Upon settling in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1845, they engaged in farming. Adam Walker attended school in Ohio, and started out for himself in 1868, the same year marrying Miss Elizabeth Faubel, daughter of Christopher Faubel, a native of Germany, brought to this country by her parents in 1849, when she was an infant. After his marriage he settled on a farm in Ohio until 1880, at which time he came to Webster County, Neb., and, on March 4, settled on a farm of 160 acres, which he purchased from the railroad company. He immediately set to work improving this farm, and now has one of the nicest farms in the county, on which is a nice orchard and grove. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are the par-

ents of eight children, viz.: Henry (born in Ohio in 1869), Jacob (born in Ohio in 1871), Anna (born in Ohio in 1873), Mary (born in Ohio in 1875), Emma (born in Ohio in 1877), Rose (born in Ohio in 1879), Georgie (born in Nebraska in 1881) and Drusie (born in Nebraska in 1885). Mr. Walker has been very successful since locating in this county, which is chiefly owing to honest hard work and good management, and is engaged quite extensively in raising cattle, horses and hogs, in connection with agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are both members of the Lutheran Church, the former being one of the trustees of the Blue Hill Church of that denomination. Mr. Walker belongs to the Alliance, and in his political views sides with the Democratic party, taking an active interest in local politics, and has served as school treasurer ever since his connection with this district. Last year he served as assessor of Potsdam Township. Mr. Walker has seen some of the hard times of the State, but likes the country and intends to make it his home.

John C. Waller has been a grain dealer of Cowles, Webster County, Neb., since 1886, but from the month of December, 1870, up to that date he was engaged in tilling the soil. His birth occurred in England in 1844, his parents being Henry and Mary (Green) Waller, also born in that country, and in the land of her nativity the mother died in 1856. On April 14, 1869, John C. Waller left England to come to the "land of the free and the home of the brave," but first landed in Quebec, coming to the United States about May 1 of that year. He first took up his abode in McHenry County, Ill., where he resided two years, then, as above stated, came to Webster County, Neb., where he took up a claim on which the town of Cowles is now located, and improved it. However, he disposed of it in the fall of 1886 and embarked in his present business, which is proving quite satisfactory, financially. He is one of those men who came to Nebraska poor in purse, but by perseverance and energy he has gained the confidence of those with whom he associates and does business. He has at all times been identified with the Republican party, and has aided, by his support and encouragement,

all things tending toward the advancement of churches and schools. In the fall of 1872 he left home on a buffalo hunt, going to Red Willow County, but was caught out in the terrible storm of that year, was snow bound, and came near losing his life and that of his horses. When he first came to the county the prairies were covered with immense droves of buffalo, deer, antelope, elk and other wild animals, but their places are now occupied by as large herds of domestic animals, and the land, instead of being vast stretches of prairie, comprises well-tilled farms. Mr. Waller was married, in 1878, to Miss Lavinia Buster, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Young) Buster, of Franklin County, Neb., and their union has resulted in the birth of two children: James E. and Mabel.

W. H. Walter, a substantial farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 20-2-12, Inavale Township, first saw the light in Fayette County, Ind., January 30, 1841. His father, a native of Virginia, was reared to maturity in his native State, and at the age of eighteen years moved to Indiana, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, subsequently marrying, at the age of twenty-two years, Miss Mary Web, also of Virginia, and seven children came to brighten their home, viz.: Mary, W. H., Sarah, Alice, Catherine, Charles and Daniel. Of these, Mary is the wife of Peter Osteimer, and resides in Hardin County, Iowa; W. H. is the subject of this sketch; Sarah is now Mrs. John Parish, and a resident of Wayne County, Ind.; Alice is deceased; Catherine is wedded to a Mr. Berges, and resides in Hardin County, Iowa; Charles resides in Chicago, Ill., and Daniel is deceased. The family continued to reside in Fayette County, Ind., where the father was successfully engaged in tilling the soil, until 1871; then moved to Hardin County, Iowa, where they have made their home ever since. W. H. Walter spent his youthful days in his native State, remaining at home until he was seventeen years of age, when, the war coming on, he enlisted (in July, 1861) in a company of the Third Indiana Light Artillery, Capt. Tryborger commander, and after serving four years and one month, he was honorably discharged at Indianapolis, Ind., August 20, 1865. Among the

principal engagements in which he was interested are Vicksburg, the Red River expedition, Nashville and the Mobile expedition. At the close of the war he returned to Indiana, and engaged in farming until 1872, at which time he came to Webster County, Neb. (then comparatively in its infancy), and homesteaded 160 acres of good land. At that time game of all kinds was very plentiful, the price of hides and skins high, and as Mr. Walter was very fond of the sport, for the first year or so he devoted his attention chiefly to these pursuits, making his entire living in this way. To his original 160 acres of land Mr. Walter has since added 120 acres, thus making him the owner of one of the finest farms in the county, comprising 280 acres of fine land, all improved, and well stocked with horses, cattle and hogs. In January, 1860, he was married to Miss Mary Ostheimer, daughter of George and Mary Ostheimer, both natives of Germany. Her father was a soldier in the late war, and was killed at the battle of Richmond, in 1861. Seven children have blessed their wedded life, viz.: Lewis, Anna, Alice, William, Ida, Edward and Charles. Mr. Walter is a Republican, and takes an active interest in politics.

Almerin M. Walters is a prominent attorney of Blue Hill, Neb., and as he has always applied himself closely to what he had in hand, he has been very successful. He was born in Bureau County, Ill., August 28, 1855, being a son of Shepherd and Adaline (Green) Walters, the former a native of Belmont County, Ohio, born June 8, 1819, and the latter a native of New York City, born in April, 1824. They were married in 1838, and became the parents of eight children, of whom Almerin M. was the seventh, five of the family being now alive. The mother of these children died in May, 1869, and the father afterward espoused Mrs. Mary Harrington, with whom he now resides in Oak Creek Township, Webster County, Neb. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch was David Walters, who was born in Fayette County, Pa., and the maternal grandparents were William and Nancy Green, both born in New York City. Almerin M. Walters spent his early youth on a farm in his native county, and at the age of fifteen

years entered a high school at Princeton, Ill., which he attended three years, graduating at the age of eighteen years. The two following years he was employed as teacher of mathematics in this school, but at the end of that time he gave up the position to go to Montgomery County, Iowa, where, during the winter of 1874, he was principal of the public schools of Villisca. In the meantime he had entered upon the study of law, and after his school had closed, in the spring of 1875, he commenced the practice of his profession at that place. His admission to the bar did not occur, however, until August, 1876. In the spring of the following year he located in Red Oak, the county seat of Montgomery County, but after remaining here engaged in the practice of his profession for some two years, he returned to Villisca, remaining until July, 1885. Since that time he has resided in Blue Hill, Neb., where he has been an active and successful legal practitioner ever since. Mr. Walters is a Republican, and has always taken an active interest in politics, and does all he can to promote the welfare of his party. His influence is felt upon the platform, for he is an able speaker, and in 1883 he was the candidate of his party for the Iowa State Legislature, but on account of the heavy Prohibition vote in that year he was defeated by seven votes. In 1884 he was elected mayor of Villisca, serving one term, and was also a member of the school board of that place. He is now both clerk and attorney of Blue Hill, and is president of the A. M. Walters Investment Company, of Blue Hill, which was organized in 1889. He was married, December 14, 1879, to Miss Lena Elliott, a native of Warren County, Ill., and a daughter of Jesse E. Elliott, a native of North Carolina, and an early settler of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Walters have four children: Letha, Carroll, Hazel and Helen. Socially, Mr. Walters is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. O. U. W.

Sebastian Walz, farmer and stockman, Blue Hill, Neb. Mr. Walz is a German-American and a farmer, and that is enough to carry the assurance that he is one of the substantial men of Elm Creek township, where he resides. Thrift is the leading characteristic of the German people, and ordina-

rily they become well-to-do. Mr. Walz was born in Baden, Germany, in 1843, and was the second of five children, the result of the union of Anton and Agatha (Walz) Walz, natives also of Baden, Germany. The father was an officer in the public highways, and remained in his native country until his death, which occurred in 1871; the mother died in 1854. Their children were John (married and came to Webster County, Neb., in 1884), Sebastian, Henry (married and resides in Sioux County, Iowa), Anton (resides in Cedar County, Iowa), and Fred (resides in the same county). Sebastian Walz was educated in the schools of Germany, and in 1867 left Baden and crossed the ocean to the United States, settling in New York, where he worked in a brick-yard for some time. In 1870 he went to Stephenson County, Ill., engaged in farming, and was married in Carroll County of that State the following year to Miss Mary Berger, a native of Canada, who bore him the following children: John, Anna, Adolph, Carrie, Rosa, Ludwig and Bertha. In 1876 Mr. Walz moved to Carroll County, Iowa, purchased land, and there remained until 1880, when he moved to Plymouth County, Iowa. In 1881 he moved to Saline County, Neb., purchased an improved farm, and there resided until coming to Webster County in March, 1885. He purchased 160 acres of railroad land, began making many improvements, and has most of it under cultivation. He takes considerable interest in politics, and his vote is cast with the Democratic party. He assisted in organizing the school district, and is a member of the school board. He is also a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and Mrs. Walz are members of the Catholic Church at Blue Hill.

Joseph W. Warren has been identified with the history of Webster County since 1874. Born in the "Hoosier State," he first saw the light in Greene County in 1841. He was the fourth of twelve children born to Reuben and Naomi (Austin) Warren, the former born in Delaware in 1811 and the latter in 1812. In early life his father engaged in the livery business, (also dealing extensively in horses) and successfully continued in this interest all his life. He died in 1875, his

wife still survives and lives in Montana. J. W. Warren was taken while yet a child by his parents to Muscatine, Iowa, where he was reared to manhood and received his education, in the meantime assisting his father in his business. At the breaking out of the late war he enlisted in Company H, Eleventh Iowa Infantry, and served throughout the war, participating in all the battles from Chattanooga to Atlanta. He took part in the battle of Shiloh, and was in the fight in which McPherson was killed, July 22, 1864. He was honorably discharged October 9, 1865, and immediately after his discharge returned to his home. Here he remained for one year and then went to Washington, Iowa, and engaged in the livery business, which he continued for nine years, and at the end of that time sold this business and came to Nebraska, settling in Webster County, which he has since made his home. Upon his arrival in this county he homesteaded 160 acres of choice land, and resided on it for five years. In 1878 he was elected sheriff, and as the best proof of his efficiency and popularity as an officer, it may be mentioned that he was re-elected for three consecutive terms. It was while serving in this capacity that a prisoner in his charge was taken from jail by a mob of lynchers and hanged until he was nearly dead. Mr. Warren forced his way through the mob and cut him down, but not before he was so nearly dead that it took the doctors twelve hours to resuscitate him. During this time great excitement prevailed. Mr. Warren was married in Medina County, Ohio, to Miss Julia S. Pierce, born in that county, and six children have come to brighten their home, viz.: Jessie, Walter G., Ruth, Emeline, Joseph W. and Carl. In secret societies Mr. Warren belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the G. A. R., and the A. O. U. W.

William A. Watkins was born in the State of Illinois on July 25, 1854, but for the past seven years he has been a representative citizen of Blue Hill, Neb. His father, Dr. John Watkins, was one of the early physicians of Southern Illinois, practicing his profession there for about thirty years, and near the city of Springfield he reared his family. On January 30, 1879, William A. was married to

Miss Emily J. Rape, the daughter of John Rape, one of the first settlers of Sangamon County, but her death occurred on the 31st day of the following December. In 1883 Mr. Watkins decided to make his home in Nebraska, and his first location was made at Blue Hill, of which place he has since been a resident and an influential man of business. He formed a partnership with two of his brothers, and they became the proprietors and publishers of the Blue Hill Times, which paper they founded, and were also engaged in the real estate, loan and live-stock business. This firm was dissolved in November, 1886, after which the subject of this sketch became associated in the real-estate and live-stock business with A. M. Walters, and they are now the proprietors of a well-stocked livery barn in Blue Hill and a fine stock-farm three and a half miles east of the place, which contains 360 acres, upon which graze the numerous horses and cattle that they purchase. In addition to these enterprises Mr. Watkins has, for the past fifteen years, followed the pursuit of an auctioneer, and in this capacity he has built up an acquaintance and reputation extending over several counties. He has dealt in live-stock from early boyhood, and the knowledge thus gained, together with his natural ability as an auctioneer, have made him particularly well fitted for this calling, and his reputation as a successful auctioneer is thoroughly established, there being in all probability not one in the State who is more widely or favorably known. He and his partner own a quarter interest in the Blue Hill Creamery, an enterprise which has proved a great benefit to the town and community, and which pays its stockholders a reasonable profit. On December 9, 1886, Mr. Watkins was married to Miss Adelaide M. Oswin, who was born in Wisconsin, but who was reared at Dixon, Ill. She is a very estimable lady and is a member of the Christian Church.

Silas S. Wells. Among the vanguard of early settlers in Webster County, few have borne a more conspicuous, useful or honorable part than Silas S. Wells, who first came to the county on June 26, 1871. He was born in Piscataquis County, Me., in 1834, the eldest of four children born to Robert

and Louisa (Stickney) Wells, both natives of Massachusetts. The father was a farmer by occupation, and made his home in Minnesota until his death, which occurred in July, 1884; his wife died March 2, 1840. The grandfather served in the Revolutionary War. Silas S. was reared as a farmer, and educated in the common schools of Maine. In the fall of 1855 he went to Hennepin County, Minn., and engaged in lumbering in the pineries of that State. On August 12, 1862, he enlisted in the Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, in Company A, for three years, and was mustered into service at Madison, and assigned to the Western department, doing provost duty during the war. He was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., in September, 1865, and immediately after returned to Minnesota and resumed his farming operations, until June 26, 1871, when he came to Nebraska, homesteading 160 acres of good land on Little Blue River. Immediately after his arrival he settled on this land, his family being the first in Harmony Township, and soon had it under a high state of cultivation. He has seen the complete growth of this and Adams Counties, and experienced the grasshopper scourges of 1874 and 1876, as well as all the hardships incident to frontier life. Besides his homestead, Mr. Wells is the owner of 160 acres of land in Kearney County, all well improved. His marriage occurred November 10, 1865, in Pierce County, to Miss Sylvania A., daughter of John Hawley, a native of Ohio, who moved to Wisconsin in the spring of 1855, and there made his home. Soon after his marriage he moved to Minnesota, settling in Dakota County and engaged in farming, and from there came to Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Wells are the parents of seven children, viz.: Mary, Alice, Lorenzo, Olive, Nettie, Charley, Henry. Mary is now Mrs. Hall, of Bladen; Alice was the first white child born in Adams County, her birth occurring June 26, 1871; she is now Mrs. Lorenzo Canfield, of Norman, Kearney County, Neb.; Olive, Nettie and Charley are at home, and Henry died November 22, 1887, in his twentieth year. Mr. Wells served as postmaster of Wells, an office in Webster County, for fourteen years. He has always been identified

with the interests of the county, and has served as justice of the peace, and is now serving his third term as township supervisor. He belongs to A. E. Burnside Post No. 79, G. A. R., Bladen, Neb., of which he is commander, and he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

George D. Wenke. Webster County is indebted to Germany for one of its substantial farmers—George D. Wenke, residing in Section 32, Guide Rock Township. He was born in Oldenburg, November 16, 1849, a son of John F. and Kate (Munderloh) Wenke, both natives of Oldenburg, and when he was three years of age his parents decided to seek their fortunes in the new world and emigrated to the States in 1852, settling in Peoria County, Ill., where the father engaged in farming. They were among the pioneers of that section, and made their home at that place until the father's death in 1875; his widow still survives. George D. Wenke grew to manhood in Peoria County, Ill., remaining at home with his father until he had reached years of discretion, when he left his home, and for the next two years spent his time in Kansas and Missouri engaged at different occupations. At the end of that time he returned to his home in Illinois, and on February 9, 1882, led Miss Mary Bentel, daughter of Adam Bentel, a native of Germany, to the altar and they became husband and wife. Mrs. Wenke was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and reared in Illinois. For one year after his marriage Mr. Wenke tilled the soil in Peoria County, when, thinking the far west offered greater attractions to the enterprising young man, in the spring of 1883 he came to Webster County, Neb., and purchased the land on which he is now living, which was then wild, uncultivated prairie land. He has a fine hedge fence surrounding his 160 acres, a thriving young orchard, a good one-and-a-half-story residence, stables, sheds, etc., and cultivates about eighty acres. Their married life has been brightened by the birth of three children: Rena, George Otto and John F. Mrs. Wenke is a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Wenke has served as a member of the school board.

Joseph Wenzinger, farmer and stock-raiser of

Oak Creek Township, Webster County, Neb., living on the north half of Section 34, Township 4, Range 9, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1844, the second of a family of five children born to Matthias and Catherine (Fugal) Wenzinger, both natives of Germany, where the father followed farming as his occupation. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his parents decided to try their fortunes in the new world, and accordingly, in 1847, they emigrated with their family to America, locating in York State, where, in Wyoming County, they engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1865, at that time moving to Henry County, Ohio, and settling on a sixty-acre farm, on which they still reside, their nearest trading point being New Bavaria. Here they have been very successful. The father is Democratic in his political views, and takes considerable interest in local political matters. His wife, who died in 1882, was a member of the Catholic Church, to which church he also belongs. Their family of five children were John, Joseph, Theodore, Frederick and Francis. The immediate subject of this sketch spent his youthful days in New York, where he received a good common-school education. In 1868 he started out in life for himself as a farmer, and a workman in a saw-mill, and in 1875 immigrated to Nebraska and took up a homestead and timber claim in Oak Creek Township, Webster County, on which he is now living. He has since purchased 240 acres of good tillable land, making him a fine farm of 560 acres, which is one of the best improved places in the county. Anna Johan, daughter of Peter Johan, of Nuckolls County, was born in Prussia in 1856, and in 1876 she was married to Mr. Wenzinger, and they are now the parents of five children, viz.: John M., Francis, Elizabeth, William and Mary. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wenzinger are members of the Catholic Church, and Mr. Wenzinger takes considerable interest in educational and religious matters. He votes the Democratic ticket. Mr. Wenzinger has been identified with Webster County since its early history, and has experienced all the hardships incident to the early settlement of a country, his nearest trading point at the time of settlement be

ing Fairfield; but he has endured all these disadvantages, and is now reaping his reward. He is engaged in stock-raising on quite a large scale, keeping about 300 head of stock constantly on hand.

William J. Whitten is one of the influential residents of Blue Hill, Neb., and although born and reared in County Armagh, Ireland, he has the interests of his adopted country at heart, and is a faithful subject of "Uncle Sam." His birth occurred on June 16, 1854, his parents being John and Jane Whitten. He was so fortunate as to receive a very good early education, but in 1879 concluded that America offered a better field for a young man of enterprise and energy, and accordingly came thither. His first two years were spent at Edgar, Neb., in the lumber and grain business, but he then came to Blue Hill, where he has since resided. He immediately became manager of the S. J. Whitten lumber yard, and has filled this position in a very satisfactory manner ever since. Socially he belongs to Blue Hill Lodge of the A. F. & A. M., the A. O. U. W., and in his political views is a Republican. He has served a number of terms as a member of the village board, and as a business man is enterprising and industrious. Hattie V. Canfield, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Albert B. and Susan Canfield, became his wife September 2, 1882, and to them two children have been born, a son that died in infancy (unnamed) and William Harold, who was born on February 10, 1888.

Henry Wichmann was born in Oldenburg, Germany, November 11, 1849, a son of Gerhard and Gesiene Wichmann, both natives of Oldenburg, where they still reside, the former an agriculturist by occupation. At the age of twenty-one, our subject entered the German army, in which he served for one year, and in 1872 left his home and native land to seek his fortune in the new world. He first located in Woodford County, Ill., residing there about nine months, and then, in 1873, came to Nebraska, locating in Webster County, where he engaged in sheep-raising, in which he has continued uninterruptedly to the present time. He commenced with ordinary stock, but began breeding

for fine sheep, and now has a splendid flock, keeping an average of 1,000 head of Merino sheep. In 1875 Mr. Wichmann took 320 acres of land under the homestead and timber culture acts. He has since purchased 480 acres of land, and now owns a fine farm of 800 acres, nearly all surrounded by a nice hedge fence, on which he has erected a good, large residence, good barns, cow and sheep-sheds, cribs, granaries, etc., and with a good wind-pump, scales, etc., he is well fixed for handling and taking care of stock. He has a thriving young grove of about ten acres, with a good bearing orchard of select fruits, besides a quantity of small fruits and a vineyard of 200 grapevines. In 1881 Mr. Wichmann paid a visit to Peoria, Ill., and on September 20 of that year was wedded to Miss Meta Wenke, born in Peoria County, a daughter of John Wenke, a native of Germany, who accompanied him on his return to his Nebraska home. This union has been blessed in the birth of three children: Katie, Bertha and Bernhard (a lad of three years). Mr. Wichmann is now serving as district treasurer, and has been a member of the school board. In his religious views he is a Lutheran.

Truman G. Wilder, farmer and stock-raiser, Cowles, Neb. One of the best known and most highly respected residents of Webster County, Neb., Mr. Wilder is a man whose life has been an active one, not without the substantial rewards of success. He owes his nativity to Jefferson County, N. Y., where his birth occurred on August 30, 1839, and is the son of Jonathan and Axa (Mosier) Wilder, natives of Vermont and New York, respectively. Jonathan Wilder was born about 1807, and was one of three children born to the marriage of Aboliah and Effie (Kendall) Wilder, descendants of old Revolutionary stock and early settlers of our country. The mother of our subject was one of eight children, Albert, Ira, Alpheus, Lyman, Julia, Sarah, Mary and Axa, born to Susan Mosier, of German-Irish descent. During the late war Mr. Truman G. Wilder enlisted in the Union army, and served from September, 1861, to September, 1864, in Company C, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, in the Army of the Potomac. Among

other battles in which he participated were Rappahannock, Williamsburg, Coal Harbor, Gaines Mills, second battle of Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Culpeper, Brandy Station and many others. He was twice wounded, once by a sabre cut in the right shoulder at Martinsburg, and again by a shell wound in the right foot, near Brandy Station. He was also in the seven-days siege of Richmond, Gettysburg, was in the battle at the fort near Washington, and was in numerous skirmishes. He left New York when sixteen years of age, and moved with his parents to Illinois, locating in Whiteside County, where, after the war in 1865, he married Miss Orrel L. Conyne, who was born in Whiteside County, and who was the daughter of J. D. and Orrel M. (Warner) Conyne. Mr. Wilder moved to Iowa in 1869, resided there for ten years and then went to Republic County, Kas., where he made his home for four years. In 1883 he came to Webster County, Neb., settled on his present farm in Section 14, Pleasant Hill Township, and there he still resides. He has 160 acres of excellent land, well stocked, and is one of the substantial and prosperous farmers. His six children are named as follows: Frank L., John A., Minnie M. W., Mary F., Gaylord T. and Bessie A. Mr. Wilder has always voted the Republican ticket and comes of old Republican stock. Since his residence in Nebraska he has held various political positions, and at present is chairman of the board of supervisors.

William H. Wilkinson has been identified with the material interests of Webster County, Neb., since 1875, at which time he came to this place and settled on the 160 acres of land on which he now lives, engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs. He has seen the entire growth and development of the country, and expects to spend the rest of his days here, and to this end has made good improvements on his place, set out a thriving young orchard and grove, erected good substantial buildings, etc. He was born in Marion County, Ind., in 1847, the sixth of a family of ten children, born to the union of James and Rachel (Murphy) Wilkinson. His father was born in

England, but early in life emigrated to this country and settled in Mississippi. He was married in Indiana, and shortly after settled in Lancaster, Wis., and there made his home and raised his children. Although a carpenter by trade, Mr. Wilkinson followed agricultural pursuits all his life, and died in Wisconsin in 1887, his wife having previously died in 1883, in the same State, she being a member of the Baptist Church. Their ten children were John T., James M. (died in infancy), James M., Daniel S., Elizabeth, William H., Rachel, David, Phoebe and Emma. William H. spent his boyhood in Grant County, Wis., assisting his father on the farm and attending school, until at the age of seventeen, in January, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and carried dispatches, acted as orderly and served as scout until the close of the war. He took part in the battles of Black River and Jackson, Miss. At Red Bow, Miss., he was disabled in the left leg by a horse, from the effects of which he still suffers. He was honorably discharged at Austin, Texas, in 1865, immediately after which he returned to Wisconsin and learned the harness-maker's trade, and in 1871 wedded Miss Ellen Moses, born in Grant County in 1849, a daughter of John Moses, by whom he became the father of nine children (seven of whom are still living), viz.: Laura (deceased), James, William (deceased), Emma, Harvey, Alice, John, Frederick and Addie. Mr. Wilkinson belongs to the G. A. R., at Blue Hill, and the Farmers' Alliance. He takes an active interest in local politics, and always votes for whom he considers the best man, irrespective of party.

A. G. Willis, local foreman of the roundhouse of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad at Red Cloud, Neb., was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., in 1841, and is a son of Josiah and Julia A. (Goodrich) Willis, the former a native of Vermont, and the latter of New York. Until he attained his thirteenth year A. G. Willis resided in his native State, but was then taken to Jackson County, Iowa, near Maquoketa, which place was his home until 1861. In the summer of this year he enlisted in Company M, Second Iowa Cavalry, and was on

active duty until July 11, 1863. after which he helped raise the Sixty-first United States Colored Infantry Regiment, with which he served as second lieutenant until December 31, 1865. He was in the fights at Farmington, Corinth, Iuka, second Corinth, Tupelo, Oldtown Creek, Harrisburg, Grierson's raid as far as Palo Alto, Miss., and the taking of Mobile, Ala. He was then made provost-marshal of a part of Bienville, Claiborne and Jackson Parishes, La., and at the close of the war made his home in Memphis, Tenn., for seven years. In August, 1866, Mrs. Nettie Kraft, who died in June, 1868, became his wife, and in the city of Memphis he was married, in November, 1870, to Miss Maggie Cashin, a native of Ireland, who was brought to America when an infant by her parents. Her death took place in 1884, and for his third wife Mr. Willis took Miss Lizzie J. Leake, a daughter of Judge Leake, of Buffalo County, Neb. Mr. Willis removed from Tennessee to Iowa in 1873, but remained there only a few months, when he went to Brookfield, Mo., and became an engineer on the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, having had much experience in that calling. After some time he went back to Iowa, and took up his abode at Creston, and became an engineer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Road, with which he has been connected for the past twelve years. He located permanently in Red Cloud April 11, 1888, as roundhouse foreman, and has proved a very competent man for this position. In appearance, Mr. Willis is of average height, weighs about 300 pounds, and is fair complexioned. He is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and at all times takes an active part in all religious services. He is a staunch Republican. Socially he belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and the Pilgrim Knights of the Palm and Shell. He is a man who has traveled over the greater part of his native land, and besides being in thirty States and three Territories, he has traveled in Canada, Mexico and Cuba.

Charles G. Wilson has been engaged in farming and dairying in Webster County since 1882. He was born in Camden, Jay County, Ind., August 28, 1842, being the second of twelve children, ten

now living, born to John T. and Hannah D. (Jones) Wilson, natives, respectively, of Columbiana County, Ohio, and Bedford County, Pa. The former died in 1864 and the latter in 1885. Charles G. Wilson was reared to manhood in his native village, and at the age of eighteen years entered the Union army as a member of Company A, Forty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served four years and four months, or throughout the remainder of the war. He was at Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, siege and battle of Vicksburg, and Mobile, besides many others of less note. He was in the Fourth Division, Thirteenth Army Corps, the former commanded by Gen. A. P. Hovey and the latter by Gen. John A. McClernand. Mr. Wilson was married on March 9, 1864, to Miss Emma H. Harper, a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Jennings) Harper, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New Jersey. In 1866 Mr. Wilson emigrated from Jay County, Ind., to Marshall County, Iowa, where he farmed six years, coming in 1872 to Nebraska and taking up a claim of 160 acres in Adams County. This he proved up and occupied two years, after which he pre-empted another 160 acres in the same county, living on it eight years. In 1882 he removed to a timber claim of 160 acres which he had taken in Webster County, and this farm he has occupied ever since. The town of Blue Hill has been built just west of this place, and its near proximity has made Mr. Wilson's farm very valuable. He is a member of the G. A. R., the A. O. U. W., and in his political views is a Prohibitionist, serving one term as commissioner in Adams County. He has filled the office of supervisor since coming to Webster County, being chairman of the board. In connection with farming and stock-dealing he has, for the past two years, owned and conducted a first-class dairy. He has proved a valuable resident of the county since locating here, and he and his wife are respected and esteemed by all who know them. They are members of the Christian Church, and are the parents of the following children: Zuella, Arthur, Maud, Grace, Walter and Charles.

Thomas J. Ward, city clerk of Red Cloud, was

reared at his birthplace, Wythe County, Va., and at the age of fourteen (in 1864) he entered Emery and Henry College (Virginia), but his course was cut short by the war, and he entered the Confederate service at the age of less than fifteen years, under his old professor of mathematics as orderly, in Company E, Twenty-first Virginia, entering upon active service. In 1864 he was at Cedar Creek (where Sheridan made his raid), Five Forks and Petersburg, Hatchie's Run, back to Richmond, thence to Lee's surrender at Appomattox, April 9, 1865. At Liberty Mills he was wounded, his horse being shot from under him. He came to Nebraska in 1865, and was at Fontanelle and Fremont until 1872, clerking in a mercantile establishment. He took a homestead on Wilton Creek, near Gov. Pond, which he still owns. In 1878 he went to Cowles and built the first frame building and engaged in business, being the first one to embark in business at that place. He remained in Cowles ten years and then came to Red Cloud and published the *Helmet*, a Democratic paper, which he ran successfully for one year. He then founded the *Red Cloud Democrat*, which he held for six months, and then sold to D. J. Myers, the present owner. He then entered the real estate business and established a collecting agency, and has been in that business ever since. He owns his own residence, consisting of a house and two lots, and is one of Red Cloud's substantial and enterprising citizens. In 1878 he called the first Democratic convention ever held in the county, by letter. The party was organized and the first Democratic vote in the county cast. He has been candidate for office on the Democratic ticket several times, but on account of the odds of the Republican party, was defeated on each occasion. Mr. Ward belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A. In September, 1872, he was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Hickock, in Dodge County, Neb. She was born in Wisconsin, and had five brothers in the Northern army. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have been blessed in the birth of five children, viz.: Dora, Artemus, William, Viola and Frankie C. Mr. Ward was the second of nine children, six of whom grew to maturity, born to N. W. and Nancy A. (McDonald) Ward. His father

was a physician, and was born, reared, married and lived in Virginia until his death, which occurred in 1861, in his fortieth year. His widow is now residing in Cowles. His paternal grandfather, Ephriam Ward, was born in 1798, and died in 1869; his father was born in Ireland. His maternal grandfather, Solomon McDonald, was also a Virginian by birth.

Elisha E. Woodward, farmer and stock-raiser, Guide Rock, Neb. In reviewing the lives of prominent residents of Webster County, mention must be made of Elisha E. Woodward, who came to this county in its early history and has contributed in no small degree to its upbuilding and settlement. He was born in St. Joseph County, Mich., July 20, 1840, a son of Joseph and Catherine (Swingle) Woodward, both natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married, and soon after that event took place, emigrated to Michigan, locating in St. Joseph County, about the year 1830. They were among the earliest settlers at this place, and here the wife and mother's death occurred in 1843, followed by her husband in 1872. Elisha E. Woodward grew to manhood in his native State, and August 9, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, Nineteenth Michigan Infantry, and served his country faithfully and well, until June 25, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. Among the battles in which he participated are the following: Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Averysboro and Bentonville, N. C. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and was in the siege of Atlanta. At Thompson's Station his brigade was taken prisoner (in 1863), and held at Libby Prison for about a month, then paroled and returned to their homes. As soon as exchanged, our subject returned to his regiment and duty. At the close of the war he returned to his home in St. Joseph County, and engaged in farming until 1870, when he came to Webster County, and entered a homestead of 160 acres on Republican River (mostly bottom land), all of which he has fenced with a nice hedge, and on which he has erected a neat and commodious residence one and one-half stories high, good barns and out-buildings. He has a flourishing young orchard, mostly devoted to

cherries. In St. Joseph County, Mich., on September 5, 1866, Miss Nancy J. Embley, daughter of William Embley, became Mrs. Woodward, and seven children have been given them to brighten their home, viz.: Sherman, Stanley, Myrtie, Irvin, Maggie, Ethel and Clarence. Mrs. Woodward was born in New York, but grew to womanhood and was educated in St. Joseph County, Mich. Mr. Woodward belongs to the Farmers' Alliance and the G. A. R.

William J. Wright, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Webster County, residing on Section 25, Town 4, Range 9, Oak Creek Township, was born in Randolph County, Ind., in 1841. His father, James Wright, was born in Clinton County, Ohio, being a son of Jonathan Wright, and grew to manhood in his native State, selecting farming as his vocation, and later was united in matrimony to Miss Abigail Starbuck, also a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Gair Starbuck, who bore him ten children, the subject of this sketch being the eighth in order of birth, as follows: Asenath, Jehu, Asa, Susanna, Margaret, John G., Sarah A., Mary, William and Thomas J. Soon after his marriage Mr. Wright moved to Randolph County, Ind., where he tilled the soil very successfully until his death, which occurred in Randolph County in 1849. After his death his widow and family moved to Lowell County, Ill., in 1854, and later moved to Logan County, same State, where, in 1864, the mother passed away. Both parents were members of the Friends' Church. The father was a Whig, and a strong Abolitionist. William J. Wright was reared to manhood on his father's farm, and his early life was passed, like that of all farmers' boys, in attending school and assisting his father in the labors incident to an agricultural life. In early manhood he started out for himself by tilling the soil in Illinois. In 1865 his marriage to Miss Frances M. Hudson, daughter of John O. Hudson, was consummated. She was born in Kentucky in 1847. Mr. Wright followed farming in Illinois with moderate success until 1878, and then came to Webster County and located his present place. He purchased 240 acres of excellent land, which he has improved, and is now very successfully

engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has a thriving young orchard and a fine grove, and is today considered among the substantial and well-to-do farmers of Webster County, and he has the pleasure of knowing that his property has all been made by his own honest hard labor and good management. He came to this section when the country was entirely new, and has witnessed its entire growth and development. Mr. and Mrs. Wright are the parents of nine children: Henry, Cora (now Mrs. William Finney, of this county), George, Lenie, Ollie, Levi, Alpheus, Frank and Fern. Mrs. Wright belongs to the Christian Church, and is an estimable lady. Mr. Wright has always been identified with the Republican party, and takes considerable interest in local politics. He belongs to the Alliance.

George O. Yeiser, dealer in real estate, Red Cloud, Neb., was born in Garrard County, Ky., in 1825, being a son of George and Margaret (Jameson) Yeiser, the former of whom was also a native of the Blue Grass State. The father, a tanner by occupation, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and died in 1873, in his seventy-ninth year. Grandfather Yeiser was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and in early life moved to Baltimore, Md., subsequently settling in Danville, Ky., where his death occurred. Grandfather Jameson was born in Caroline County, Va., and died in 1812. He was a captain in the Revolutionary War, and was a nephew of the Jameson that captured the famous Andre. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Kentucky, receiving a liberal education, and was graduated in the class of 1848, at Centre College, with the degree of A. B. Subsequently, having read law, he was admitted to the bar, and entered upon the practice of his profession in Southern Kentucky, in 1867 moving to Franklin County, Ky., where, by the result of an accident, he lost his arm. From the fall of 1860, until December, 1862, he practiced law in Mexico, Mo., and during this time was curator of the State University. In December, 1862, Mr. Yeiser returned to Southern Kentucky and resumed his law practice until 1867; during the year 1864-65, while collector of revenue, with headquarters at Paducah, over \$1,-

000,000 passed through his hands. In 1875 he was ordained minister of the Baptist Church, and the same year came to Nebraska and took charge of the Baptist Church at Ashland. In December, 1876, assuming charge of the church at this place, he continued so occupied until 1883, then being obliged, on account of failing health to abandon his labors. He still preaches every other Sunday at Guide Rock. Since settling in Webster County, Mr. Yeiser has married over 200 couples. During the summer of 1883 he opened a real estate office with his son, Ryland D., as a partner, and they have since conducted a large and profitable business. Mr. Yeiser served as county judge of Webster County during 1884-85. He was married in

Payette County, Ky., in 1859, to a Miss Dillard, who died in 1884, leaving five children, viz.: Pamela D., Ryland, John O., William and James. Two of his children are dead, one passing away in infancy and the other at about seven years of age. His son, John O., is a successful lawyer of Omaha. R. Dillard Bedford, a nephew of Mrs. Yeiser, has made his home with his uncle ever since he was five years old, and is now reading law with Attorney Gilham at Red Cloud. Mrs. Yeiser was a daughter of Rev. R. T. Dillard, D. D. Mr. Yeiser is a Mason and belongs to the A. O. U. W. He is a director and stockholder of the Farmers' & Merchants' Banking Company, and takes much interest in the progress of the locality.



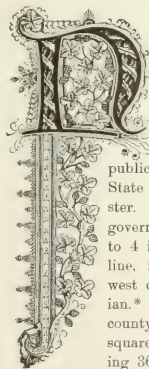


NUCKOLLS COUNTY.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARY—AREA—GOVERNMENT SURVEY—PHYSICAL FEATURES—GEOLOGICAL FORMATION—TIMBER. STREAMS AND DRAINAGE—NATURE OF SOIL—CLIMATIC ATTRACTIONS—PERIOD OF SETTLEMENT—EXTRACT—NUMEROUS FIRST THINGS—"GREAT TRAIL"—THE EARLIEST INHABITANT—LIST OF LATER SETTLERS—AN AMUSING ANECDOTE—INDIAN TROUBLES—WILD ANIMALS.

I want air, and sunshine, and blue sky.
The feeling of the breeze upon my face,
The feeling of the turf beneath my feet,
And no walls but the far-off mountain tops.—*Longfellow.*



NUCKOLLS COUNTY, Nebraska, lying in the southern tier of counties, about 130 miles west of the Missouri River, is bounded north by Clay County, east by Thayer, south by Republic and Jewell Counties in the State of Kansas, and west by Webster. It embraces, according to government surveys, Townships 1 to 4 inclusive, north of the base line, in Ranges 5 to 8 inclusive, west of the sixth principal meridian.* This makes the area of the county 24 miles square, or 576 square miles, the area in acres being 367,534.

The government survey of the lands was made in 1858-59, and about the same time the Territorial Legislature mapped it out as a county and

named it Nuckolls, after a wealthy firm of merchants then doing business in Nebraska City. The topography of the county is similar to that of Webster, though it has more and larger streams, and probably a little more timber. The timber, however, which is mostly elm, cottonwood, oak, ash and boxelder, covers but a very small portion of the area of the county, and is found along the streams only. In addition to the native forests, a large acreage of timber has been planted since the settlement of the county began. Aside from the narrow strips of timber bordering the streams, the surface of the county is all prairie, usually termed rolling prairie. Back from the streams

*The first principal meridian used in the rectangular system of surveying the public lands of the United States, is the state line between the states of Ohio and Indiana; the second runs through the center of Indiana, a few miles west of the capital thereof; the third through Illinois, a little east of the center thereof; the fourth through the western part of that State, the fifth through the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Iowa, and the sixth runs through the State of Nebraska, commencing at the southern boundary between the counties of Thayer and Jefferson, and extending northward it crosses the Platte River near the city of Columbus.

the land is comparatively level, while near them and along the "draws" it is more rolling, and the larger streams with their valleys are bordered with prominent bluffs. The scenery of the county from nearly all points, especially from the bluffs, is extremely picturesque.

The Republican River, a full description of which is given in the history of Webster County, enters Nuckolls County from the west, at a point four miles north of the southwest corner thereof, and flows thence in a general easterly direction, bearing southward, and crosses the line and enters the State of Kansas at a point about ten miles east of the southwest corner of the county. It then returns into Nuckolls County at three different places, and finally leaves it, returning into Kansas at a point a little over eight miles west of the southeast corner of the county. Its route through the county is considerably crooked, as its channel crosses the valley several times, so that it washes the bluffs first on one side and then on the other, mostly, however, on the southern side. The bluff on the southern side of the valley is the most abrupt all the way through the county. On the north side it is generally reached by one or more terraces or benches. This accounts for the fact that the railroad and all the towns along the river in Nebraska are located on the north side. A few small draws in the county lead the surplus water into this river from the south. The tributaries from the north are Crosby and Blakely Creeks, which empty into the river in Range 6, west; Lost Creek, which flows by the city of Superior, and empties into Blakely below, and Beaver Creek, in Range 8, west. In addition to these creeks are a few draws leading from the north to the river. Spring Creek rises southeast of the center of the county, and flows in a southeasterly direction, crossing its eastern boundary four and a half miles north of the southeast corner. It empties into the Little Blue River near the center of Thayer County.

The Little Blue River enters the county from the north, nine miles east of its northwest corner, and flows southeasterly through the county, leaving it at a point a little over nine miles south of the northeast corner. The tributaries of this river in

the county on the south are Turtle, Oak, Elk, Ox Bow, Dry and Liberty Creeks. Of these the principal are Elk and Liberty, the former rising in the western part of the county, in Township 3 north, Range 8, and flowing easterly by way of Nelson, the county seat, to its outlet in Section 7, in Range 5 of the same township north. Liberty Creek enters the county about six miles south of its northwest corner, and flows across the northwestern portion, and leaves it five and a half miles east of the northwest corner. There are no tributaries worthy of mention on the north side of the Little Blue within the county. The south fork of Big Sandy Creek flows southeasterly across the county's northeast portion in Township 4 north, Range 5 west. The streams mentioned furnish all the drainage of Nuckolls County, and are sufficient for that purpose. No artificial drainage will ever be necessary. The smaller streams are not subject to any considerable overflow, but the Republican and Little Blue occasionally rise above their banks and spread out over their first bottoms.

The soil of Nuckolls County is similar in quality to that of the other counties having their history in this volume. It is a rich black loam, and produces so well that the farmers have not as yet found it necessary to apply any fertilizing matter worthy of mention. It is, like the other counties mentioned, best adapted to the production of corn and oats, but spring wheat is extensively raised. The yield of crops for the year 1889 will be shown elsewhere in this work. The dividing ridge between the Republican and Little Blue Rivers extends east and west through the county, a little south of the center thereof.

The climate is also an important topic for consideration. Through exaggerated newspaper reports in the East this feature of Nebraska's attractiveness is not well understood. In fact, it has been grossly misrepresented. The general climate of Nuckolls County could not be made better known than to recite the fact that the county lies just north of the celebrated 40th parallel of north latitude, which line passes through Northern Missouri, Central Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Southern Pennsylvania. Everything else being equal, the

climate of this county would be similar to that of the parts of the above-named States; but owing to its elevation (1,650 feet) above the level of the sea, its true climate is more like that of Northern Indiana and Ohio. For Southern Nebraska the mean annual temperature is 58°, mean summer temperature is 83° and mean winter temperature is 25°.

Occasionally the extremes are great, yet they are so modified that no acute suffering follows. The ever cooling breezes of summer and the dryness of the pure atmosphere of winter render extremes of temperature more endurable than a quiescent and moist atmosphere. The autumn months are delightful. Excessive rains seldom fall, and good mild weather is prolonged into December and frequently until January. A short rough spell is apt to occur in November, but nothing continued and severe occurs until the last of December.

From this it may be learned that the winters are not long, and are not unendurably cold for the latitude. It is also very healthful, there being no swamp or marsh lands, or stagnant water at all to engender malaria. A case of fever and ague is seldom heard of. The water in the streams has a rapid current, and an abundance of pure and almost "soft" water is obtained by boring or digging, either of which is easily done, there being no rock in the way. On bottom lands wells are sunk from twenty to forty feet deep, and on the uplands from forty to one hundred feet deep. Raw lands can be purchased at from \$10 to \$15 per acre, and improved lands from \$15 to \$20 and upward, owing to amount of improvements and location.

With such indications as are here presented, it was not strange that Nuckolls County's pioneers should spread abroad glowing descriptions of this new Eldorado, or that they should be followed by a steady influx of emigration. The following quotations, pertaining to the settlement of the county, are taken largely from the *Andreas State History*, published some years ago.

The history of Nuckolls County commences with the "great trail" period for the overland route from St. Joseph, Mo., to California, that en-

tered Nebraska on the south of Jefferson County, passing through the northern part of this, or along the course of the Little Blue.

Settlements were attempted as early as 1858, about the time Jefferson and Thayer Counties received their first white settlers, but being almost on the extreme border of the frontier, the bold leaders in the van of westward emigration were not permitted by the savage occupants to see civilization established, but paid their lives for the security that is to-day so rapturously enjoyed by the citizens of Nuckolls County. These fertile hills and valleys were watered and sanctified by their blood. Credit belongs to those who came in 1870, but glory to those who came before.

The Mormons passed through the county along the course of the Little Blue on their hegira westward to Salt Lake, making the first road or trail in Nuckolls County, which was, in 1858, adopted, straightened, bridged and used by the Government in transporting supplies to the different military posts along the frontier, in the mountains, and to California.

In 1859 Butterfield started the Pony Express over this road, which, considering the time and route, was a hazardous enterprise. The same year Russell & Waddell started the Overland Stage Line and established stations along the route in Nuckolls, the most noted of which was Oak Grove.

B. S. Comstock is the oldest settler now in the county, arriving here as early as 1858, who, with his family and the other ranchmen along this route, deserve the credit and glory of opening Nuckolls County and the territory of Southern Nebraska, and repairing the road for the establishment of farms and happy and prosperous homes by the coming tide of emigration.

In 1861 Mr. Comstock purchased Oak Grove, situated on the Little Blue, in the eastern part of the county, whither he moved his family, consisting of himself and seven children—four boys and three girls. Here he remained until 1867, through the severest period of the county's history, farming a little and keeping a ranch. The trials of the family and other settlers during this period can be found in the article on Indian troubles. Read

them and you will acknowledge him and his sons and daughters, most of whom are still in the neighborhood of Oak Grove, as the heroes of the county.

Oak Grove Ranch was rebuilt in 1865, having been destroyed in the great raid of 1864, and the Comstock family were joined by two others, that settled south of the Little Blue. The names of the families we are unable to discover. In 1867, during the Indian raids, the county was abandoned by white settlers, excepting a man by the name of John Lorrimer, who could not be induced to go. He was warned of the danger—the fearful hazard of remaining at the mercy of so powerful and compassionless an enemy. He declared his intention of remaining, believing he was able to escape their fury. But in less than two weeks he fell a victim to the merciless tomahawk and scalping-knife, leaving in the hands of the Indians a good span of horses and his weapons of defense, with which they were better prepared to carry on their work of exterminating the pioneers.

The next attempt at settlement was made two years later, 1869, by Philip and Henry Michaels, at Oak Grove. Previous to this the Government had sent soldiers into the county, but they were of little advantage then, as the county was empty of white settlers.

In 1870, Thayer County becoming quite well settled, and soldiers being stationed near the Nuckolls County line, the Indians were less bold and troublesome, and were moving westward. As the coast was comparatively quiet, settlers became more numerous.

Prominent among the settlers of the county during the early years were the following: In 1870—J. P. Hammond, from Ohio, after whom Hammond Precinct is named; D. W. Montgomery, from Iowa, locating on Blue River; A. Simonton, from Illinois, locating on Blue River in the Oak Grove settlement; James Beacham, from England, locating in what is now St. Stephens Precinct; Ira D. Kammerer, from Iowa, locating in what is now Nora Precinct.

In 1871—William Loudon, from Illinois, locating and taking a homestead at the present city of

Superior; Hon. J. M. Cook, from Iowa, locating in what is now Blaine Precinct; Robert Hollingworth, a native of England, locating in the Oak Grove settlement; P. C. Morehead, from Iowa, locating in what is now Liberty Precinct; G. D. Follmer, from Iowa, locating in Elk Precinct; George A. Felton, a native of Vermont, locating on Blue River, in what is now Sherman Precinct; J. A. Roberts, from Iowa, locating in what is now Blaine Precinct; A. Wiggins, from Michigan, locating the first homestead in Sherman Precinct. Other settlers of 1871 were: A. R. Downing, C. C. Fletcher, E. L. Downing, Joseph Allen, Joseph Hannum, the Naylor, E. Vanderwood, E. C. Davis, James Campbell, Dr. Schenk, E. Reed, M. Morris, J. Fletcher, F. Werner, John Marshall, W. P. Trent, W. R. Fuller, H. Abbott, James Candy, Rufus Culp, J. G. Graham, J. Downer, S. W. Doss, Isaac Fisher, Frank Yaw, J. E. McClimans, C. W. Goodman, A. I. Edwards, Thomas Johnson, Joseph and Willis Henby, R. J. Harman, C. W. Uplinger, J. M. Clules, Robert Loudon, Lewis and William Crabill, Peter Yunker, Andrew and Joseph Bonhart, Charles Mills, Thomas Downing, John Curry and L. M. Unger.

In 1872 came Hon. R. N. Simonton, from Iowa, locating in Liberty Precinct, and subsequently in the town of Superior; S. L. Hall, from Iowa, locating in what is now Blaine Precinct; Joseph Carlson, from Iowa, locating also in Blaine Precinct; Capt. W. A. Scott, from Iowa, locating a timber claim in Elk Precinct; S. T. Caldwell, from Illinois, locating in Sherman Precinct; J. P. Schell, from Iowa, locating in the northwest corner of the county; Louis Schumm, from Iowa, locating in St. Stephens Precinct. The names of other early settlers may be observed in connection with the organization of the county.

A Mr. Butterfield, a wholesale merchant of Atehison, Kas., and his daughter came up to Oak Grove, in 1863, on a visit, and to participate in a buffalo hunt. A very stylish and exceedingly nice young man from the East named Ensworth, stopping at a neighboring ranch, became deeply enamored of Miss Butterfield and was paying her marked attention. One day he called at Oak

Grove, attired in his best dress suit to see the young lady, and on finding that she had accompanied the buffalo hunting party, determined to follow. Leaving his coat as the day was excessively warm, he started in pursuit, riding a handsome black mare of which he was as proud as of his apparel. He came upon the party consisting of Butterfield, Munger (a mail agent), George and E. S. Comstock, and two of the latter's daughters, and Miss Butterfield, just as they were prepared to partake of their dinner. They had captured a buffalo bull calf, which, wearied by its fruitless efforts to escape, had laid down by the wagon to which it was fastened by a long lariat. Young Ensworth rode up to the wagon, about five or six rods from where the party were awaiting his coming before commencing their repast, and fastened his horse. The young captive sprang to his feet, for the moment surprised, as the young man stood before him stroking him on the forehead, but doubtless reeking for revenge, and indifferent upon whom he obtained it, the young buffalo bull lowering his shaggy head, quick as a flash made for young Ensworth (who stood facing him) with all his fury, thrusting his head between the young man's handsomely attired legs, and carrying him with great speed toward the party, all of whom were breathlessly awaiting the result. This first buffalo ride could not be protracted long without serious results. Reaching the end of his lariat the stopping was even more sudden and terrific than his starting, but the momentum young Ensworth had gained carried him on over the bison's head; and the sprouting horns catching in the young man's pantaloons retained that necessary part of his toilet. The male portion of the party were carried away by hilarious emotions, while the female portion turned away, we may say bewildered, trying to repress their desire to laugh, but in vain. One of them laughed and the others were compelled to join in the expression of mirth, Miss Butterfield saying, "It's too dreadfully comical, I must laugh or I'll be sick." In his embarrassed condition the young man fled to the opposite side of the wagon, where he was joined by Mr. Butterfield, a man over six feet in height and quite portly. He had

an extra pair of pantaloons in the wagon which Ensworth for the time borrowed, but his slim legs (for he was little over half the size of Mr. Butterfield) felt outdoors in their temporary habitation, and after lapping them over about five inches at the waist, and turning them up at the bottom, his appearance so disparagingly contrasted to his well-fitting doeskins, that he could not meet the eye of her who had so touched the chords of his heart, and without listening to the entreaties to remain, he sprang upon his horse and retreated.

A love match was ended, and the young man returned to his lodging, if not crestfallen and with diminished stock of pride, at least richer in experience.

In 1863, Bierstadt, on his return from his travels in California, stopped at Oak Grove for rest and recreation. He desired to see an enraged buffalo, so that he could better paint the picture of one charging in his gigantic fury. Accompanied by a writer for the New York Evening Post, George and E. S. Comstock, they proceeded to a grove, several miles northwest of Superior, where they found buffalo. They succeeded in getting a large bull separated from the herd, when they shot him, after the artist had seated himself for the purpose of sketching the scene. The bull not being very ferocious, Bierstadt desired to have him wounded again. One man stood ready to make a fatal shot should it become necessary, while another again wounded the monster. Infuriated with pain and bleeding at the nostrils, he made for his assailant, but perceiving the artist, he turned toward him. Bierstadt, dropping his work, took to his heels. The bull struck the temporary table at which Bierstadt had been sitting, shattering it and strewing the artist's utensils far and wide, but did not check his speed toward the fleeing artist, who, frightened nearly out of his wits, perhaps was making the "best time" of his life. Seeming to know that the object he was pursuing was the author of his pain, the bison, bellowing terrifically, had so nearly overtaken the artist, that he snorted blood and foam upon him before the fatal shot was fired which brought the bull to the ground and saved Bierstadt from a terrible death. Bierstadt was in imminent

danger, for had the gun missed fire or the aim been less accurate, in a moment more he would have been gored to death.

When Bierstadt had gained sufficient breath to speak, he said. "That's enough; no more buffalo for me."

The account given by the reporter in the New York Evening Post, it was thought for vividness, could not be surpassed, but when Bierstadt's picture of an enraged buffalo bull pursuing a man was completed, it seemed more a reality than a picture.

Cuts of this painting have since been used in geographies to picture the American bison for the benefit of the future aspirant for the presidency.

The Indian troubles which occurred in the territory now composing the county have been thoroughly and carefully compiled and published in the work before referred to, and from those pages the following facts pertaining thereto are taken.

Next to Thayer County, Nuckolls suffered from Indian raids and depredations more than any county in Southern Nebraska. Of a large number that tried to settle permanently in the county previous to 1869, there are but B. S. Comstock and his family left to tell the story. Mr. Comstock says he could not be induced to seek another frontier.

In the great raid of August 7, 1864, which extended from Gage County to Denver, Colo., Oak Grove, the home of Mr. Comstock, was the only place in Nuckolls that held out against the Indians.

To every station and settlement in that carefully planned and skillfully executed raid was allotted a certain number of Indians, and, as Oak Grove Ranch was quite formidable, forty well-armed braves were sent against it. At the time of attack, Mr. Comstock was over twenty miles away, but, besides his family, there were five or six men at the stockade. At noon, the Indians came to the ranch, leaving their horses about a quarter of a mile away. They were permitted to come into the ranch and get dinner, with their bows hanging already strung to their backs, which is a sure sign of malicious intentions. They had finished their dinner and received each a portion

of Kinnikinnick tobacco and some matches, when, without the least warning, they in concert drew their bows and commenced shooting the white occupants of the ranch, and, but for the presence of mind and dexterity of one of Mr. Comstock's boys, they would have killed all the men and part of the women, carrying the rest into a more dreadful captivity. A Mr. Kelly, from Beatrice, was there, and had a fine revolver in a belt at his side. He fell at the first discharge of arrows, and two or three rushed to secure the revolver, but young Comstock secured it and shot the foremost aspirant for that deadly weapon. The prize he coveted became his executioner. At the report of the revolver, the Indians rushed for the door as though an army was at their heels, but three of them never did get out of the door alive, as that revolver had fallen into skilled and determined hands. Kelly and Butler were killed outright; two men by the name of Ostrander—one of whom died—and a boy, were wounded, and most of the others had their clothing pierced with arrows. The Indians rushed for their horses, and while they were away, the dead and wounded were removed to the second story of the house, the main door bolted, and a person so stationed, with a gun, about the building, which had two additions, that all points of it were protected. The attack occurred about noon. After they surrendered their first advantage, which they gained by their "friendly game," they were unable to get close enough to the house to even set it on fire, but they rode around the premises until after dusk, shooting and yelling. One Indian rode a white horse, and, just before leaving, made two very near approaches to the house. One of the men had decided to shoot him if he again returned. Mr. Comstock was on his way home, also riding a white horse. It was now too dark to distinguish one man from another. Mr. Comstock rode up just about the time for the Indian to return, and the gun was raised to shoot, when one of Mr. C.'s daughters remembered her father was riding a white horse, and to be certain, shouted, "Father, is it you?" Receiving an affirmative reply, the man lowered his gun, and Mr. C. was spared the reception of a bullet designed for an Indian.

Mr. Comstock had always befriended the Indians, which, he thinks, that day at least saved his life. He had just reached the brow of a hill as he met a man descending. The man had only reached the bottom when he was attacked by Indians in the brush beside the road. The Indians must have seen Mr. C. as he passed only a moment before, and spared him because of the favors they had received from him.

About five miles east of the grove, Ulig, a boy about eighteen years of age, was met by two Indians. One shook hands with him while the other pierced him with a spear, and when he had fallen they took his whole scalp. The boy was riding a much better horse than theirs and could have escaped had he known of their evil design. But such is an Indian's warfare. He is never brave if he is in danger. He will take no chances, and when he has the advantage he never shows mercy, but delights in seeing his victims in torture.

They left the poor boy there on the dry prairie in the scorching sun to die slowly and with excruciating pain. O, how many generations under the benign influence of civilization it would take to change such savage natures till the finer attributes of the heart would predominate!

Horrible as is the above fact it is outparalleled by what is to follow.

Four miles above Oak Grove, at the Narrows, on the Little Blue, a family of ten by the name of Ubanks, had settled a few months before that terrible 7th day of August, 1864. They were Germans from the Eastern States, and totally ignorant of Indian warfare and the best means of coping with them.

When they were attacked, they left their log house and rushed for the timber and underbrush near by, only two reaching a place of concealment—Mrs. Ubanks, wife of one of Ubanks' sons, and a Miss Laura Roper, who happened to be at the place on a visit. Nine were killed, scalped and stripped of their clothing. The household goods were either carried away or destroyed. The fate of the two women was quite as horrible as that of the nine. They would perhaps have escaped, as they had remained some time in the brush

without being discovered, but the babe Mrs. Ubanks held in her arms, from the heat, hunger or fright cried out once, and the acute ear of the invader heard it, and they were soon taken to that beastly captivity which awaits women captives at the hands of Indians.

Toward evening of that first dreadful day of captivity, Mrs. Ubanks was trying to comfort the little stranger in this strange world, who was hungry, the mother not being able to provide enough milk, being starved herself and suffering, but it could not be comforted. She held its parched lips to the bosom so full of love, but now empty of food for that young life, in vain. Not fearing danger, the little one cried, its only speech for more, and as the fond mother held it tenderly to her breast to soothe as best she could, a pitiless, merciless demon of an Indian thrust through that little skull the murderous tomahawk. What pen or brush can portray the attributes of such a monster, or the agony of that young mother! Only mothers can imagine the grief of her broken spirit.

After six months of bondage impossible to describe, they were exchanged for some Indian prisoners. About the same time, as 700 head of oxen were feeding after a hard day's travel, they were stampeded by a party of Indians, and run across the river. They were followed by seventy-five soldiers from Kearney the day following. There were about 700 Sioux and Arapahoe Indians; but the one small cannon was broken by the first discharge, and the soldiers were compelled to retreat, in which they lost eleven men killed and several wounded.

In 1865 two families by the name of Milligen and Mudge settled in the northern part of the county. Late in fall, the men were away for provisions. At night some Indians came to the house and drove the two women and four children from the house, giving them so much time to get away or die. They traveled south fourteen miles to the narrows. There were several inches of snow on the ground, and their sufferings were intense.

In 1866 every settler was driven from the county.

In 1867 there was a fight on Elk Creek, be-

tween soldiers and Indians. One man by the name of Constable was killed. The Indians outnumbering the soldiers seven to one, the latter retreated.

At the head of Liberty Creek, in 1868, there was a battle between sixty-five Otoes on one side, and forty Cheyenne-Sioux. It lasted for several hours, and resulted in favor of the Otoes, who obtained six ponies and five scalps from their adversaries.

In the northeast part of the county, in 1868, a man by the name of Haynie was killed, and his daughter, a girl of fifteen, was taken prisoner by the redskins. The girl was carried across the Republican River into Kansas. Just below Superior, on the Kansas side of the river, they camped for the night. When they had had their council meeting, Miss Haynie was assigned to a bed with two Indians, for safe keeping. Wearing with their day's journey and debauchery, about midnight they all fell soundly to sleep; but the poor unfortunate girl could not sleep if she desired. When all seemed soundly asleep, she sat up for a moment; the two savage beasts not awakening, she ventured to rise to her feet, and, stepping noiselessly over the slumbering demons, she made her escape from the camp. Proceeding down the river for about two miles, she waded across that treacherous stream, and reached the Nebraska shore. The Republican is a broad, shallow stream, with a bed of shifting quicksand for a bottom, and it is a wonder she had not perished either by sinking in the sand or drowning.

In the morning the red devils started in pursuit, but the brave girl, faint and with bleeding feet, reached a protected settlement in Thayer County only about half an hour before the Indians came in sight, following her trail.

A man by the name of Thain, living in the eastern part of the county, was the last man murdered by the Indians in Nuckolls County. He was surprised by a band of marauding Pawnees on May 7, 1870, murdered, scalped and robbed of his horses. Thain's branch, a tributary of the Little Blue, on which he lived, received its name in honor of him.

No one has been executed for murder in Nuck-

olls County, but there should have been, in at least one instance. In 1862 a man by the name of Jesse Ewing settled at the Narrows. He was of a rash and fiendish disposition. He killed a man in cold blood, below Oak Grove, but he left the county at once, and has never been heard of since.

When the settlement of the county began, the whole country round about was covered with wild animals. The thunder of the moving herds of buffalo could be heard any day and in almost any direction. The fleet-footed antelope skipped over the hills and dashed with lightning rapidity across the valleys. The timid deer grazed tremblingly in some shady recess or hill-surrounded nook. From the top of the highest hill the wary elk lifting his huge antlers pointed his nostrils windward to detect the proximity of the approaching hunter, and wild turkeys were as plentiful as are now the fowls of the barnyard. But the buffalo, the deer, the elk and the antelope are gone. The Indian camp fire has smoldered to peaceful ashes, and the story of the early adventurers, as well as the blood-curdling recitals of savage hostilities, are fast blending into the oblivion of a mythical past.

As has been said, the first permanent settler in the county was B. C. Comstock, locating at Oak Grove, on the Little Blue, with his family in 1861.

The first marriage ceremony in the county was performed March 6, 1872, by Judge E. A. Davis, being about his first official act. The contracting parties were Mr. J. C. Bunker and Miss Martha Johnston. Being his first attempt, Mr. Davis desired to show despatch and said, "Since there is no prescribed law in Nebraska for marrying people, I pronounce you husband and wife."

The first death occurred on Spring Creek, in 1872, and the person so soon called from her new home was a Miss Jaspersen.

The first white child born in the county was Ella, daughter of Adam Simonton, in the spring of 1872.

The first sermon in the county was delivered in the summer of 1872, by Rev. Mr. Penney, of the Presbyterian Church.

The Elkton Sunday-school was organized June 12, 1872, being the first in the county, by four



Edward C. Locke

NUCKOLLS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

members: R. Hollingworth, C. C. Fletcher, Joseph Carlon and Maggie Folmer.

The last buffalo was killed on the Republican bottom just below Superior in 1875, by William Crabill.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held at Oak Grove in 1871. On that day a few of the settlers gathered and were quite demonstrative. Not being threatened by the Indians, and beholding such a grand prospect for a great county of fertile and well watered lands filled with happy and prosperous homes, they rejoiced that Columbus had crossed the Atlantic, and that fortune had so favored this new nation.

The lone prairies that had so long been familiar with the savage war-whoop heard for the first time the salute from musketry and the joyous shout and hurrah of America's Fourth of July.

In 1877 Theodore J. Moelle, a German, came to Nuckolls County, and bought the first railroad land therein, on Section 33, Township 4, Range 8. He was instrumental in bringing many German families to the county.

In 1871 A. Wiggins located the first homestead in Sherman Precinct.

In 1870 Ira D. Kammerer became the first settler in Nora Precinct, and built the first dug-out therein.



CHAPTER XXIX.

FIRST STEPS TOWARD COUNTY ORGANIZATION—ELECTION ORDERED—EARLY OFFICIAL SESSIONS—COUNTY DIVISION—
 PIONEER EXECUTIVE BOARDS—ACTS OF COMMISSIONERS—PROMINENT AFFAIRS—OFFICIAL DIRECTORY—PUBLIC
 BUILDINGS—COURT-HOUSE AND JAIL—EFFORT TO REMOVE THE COUNTY SEAT—THE NEW COURT-
 HOUSE—POOR FARM—ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY—GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT—TAXABLE
 WEALTH AND FINANCIAL CONDITION—RAILROADS—PRECINCT RAILROAD BONDS—
 AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS—STOCK-RAISING—AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—
 COURT TRANSACTIONS—TRIALS—ROLL OF ATTORNEYS.

How blest is he who crowns, in shades like these,
 A youth of labor with an age of ease.—*Goldsmith.*

EARLY in 1871, a petition was sent to the Governor praying for the organization of Nuckolls County. The petition not being promptly responded to, D. W. Montgomery was sent to Lincoln to see the Governor and hasten the work. He obtained an order for an election, which was held on June 27 of that year, under an elm tree at Oak Grove, at which thirty-three votes were cast, and the following officers elected: Adam Simonton, Jonas Hannum and A. Naylor, county commissioners; Elbridge Downing, county clerk; E. A. Davis, probate judge; R. J. Harman, sheriff; Willis Henby, treasurer; Charles Goodman, county school superintendent; F. Naylor, coroner, and D. W. Montgomery, county surveyor.

The first informal meeting of officers elected was held at the house of the clerk, Elbridge Downing, on August 15, 1871, when Mr. Downing and Adam Simonton each filed their official bonds with

the probate judge-elect, and were sworn into office. Another informal meeting was held at the same place, on the 18th of the same month, when Jonas Hannum, Willis Henby, Charles Goodman and D. W. Montgomery appeared, filed their official bonds, and were sworn into office. The first session of the county commissioners' court was convened September 5, 1871, with Commissioners Simonton and Hannum and the clerk present. Their first official act was to subdivide the county into precincts, as follows: Townships 3 and 4 north, in Ranges 5 and 6 west, were made to compose Elk Precinct; Townships 1 and 2 north, in Ranges 5 and 6 west, were made to compose Spring Creek Precinct; and Liberty Creek Precinct was made to contain Townships 1, 2, 3 and 4 north, in Ranges 7 and 8 west, or the whole of the west half of the county. The second term of the county commissioners' court convened in December, 1871, with the full board present. The officers having all been re-elected in October previous, now filed bonds as follows: Willis Henby, treasurer, \$10,000; A. E. Davis, probate judge, \$5,000; R. J. Harman, sheriff, \$2,000; D. W. Montgomery, as school superintendent, \$500, and as surveyor, \$500. Other officers-elect then

appeared and qualified as follows: F. Naylor, assessor for Spring Creek Precinct; A. E. Davis, assessor for Elk Precinct; F. S. Holverson and Peter Yunker, justices of the peace for Liberty Creek Precinct, and John G. Joist, constable, and George W. Adams, road supervisor, for the same; S. D. Brooks, road supervisor for Elk Precinct. At the last election, Jonas Hannum and Adam Simonton each received the same number of votes for county commissioner, and consequently drew lots to determine which should hold the long term and act as chairman of the board. The decision was in favor of Simonton.

Some accounts against the county were then allowed, among which was one to Acres, Blackmer & Co., for the necessary blank books and stationery, amounting to \$1,548.11. The assessor-elect for Liberty Precinct failing to qualify, Jonas Hannum was appointed to fill the vacancy, and qualified accordingly. In September, 1872, the county commissioners received bids for the construction of an eighty-foot span bridge across Little Blue River. Among the several parties offering bids, the contract was awarded to the Baker National Truss Bridge Company, for \$1,250. The bids ranged from this amount up to \$2,025. At the same time a contract was awarded to Fletcher & Jones to build a bridge across Elk Creek for \$512.12.

In January, 1873, a new precinct, consisting of Township 1 north, in Range 6 west, and Townships 1 and 2 north, in Ranges 7 and 8 west, was formed, and named Republican. The elections for this new precinct were ordered to be held at Superior post-office.

In February, 1873, the county commissioners made the following order upon the record of their proceedings: "Ordered that a house of suitable size be built, so that the county business can be done in it—also that District Court can be held in said building, and that the county sinking fund collected for the years 1871 and 1872, and so much of the general fund be expended as will pay for the erection of said building. Said building not to exceed a cost of \$2,500, for its entire completion and construction." At the same time the clerk was ordered to give notice in the Hebron Journal

that the board would be in session on the 7th day of April following, for the purpose of receiving bids for plans and specifications "for a building 20x36 feet in size, and 20 feet high, for a court-house, to be erected at Nelson, the county seat of Nuckolls county." This shows that the question of the location of the county seat had been decided previous to that date. The court-house was built soon after, and was used as such for a series of years and then abandoned, on account of its being insufficient in size.

For about two years after the organization of the county, the official business was transacted at the house of D. W. Montgomery, his being the first frame house erected in the county, the lumber for which was hauled from Marysville, Kas.

In April, 1873, the board of commissioners, in response to a petition of William Loudon and others, formed a new voting precinct named Beaver, to consist of Townships 1 and 2 north, in Ranges 7 and 8 west, with Superior post-office as the place for holding the elections thereof. The following January Nelson Precinct was formed within the following boundary lines: Commencing at the northeast corner of Section 3, Township 3 north, Range 6 west; thence west to the line between Ranges 7 and 8; thence south on the range line to the line between Townships 1 and 2 north; thence east on the township line to the line between Ranges 5 and 6 west; thence north on the range line to the line between Townships 2 and 3 north; thence west to the southwest corner of Section 35, Township 3, Range 6; thence north on section lines to the place of beginning. On April 4, 1876, the precinct of Bohart was formed in response to a petition of Jacob Tilbury and others. It was made to consist of Townships 3 and 4, in Range 8. Afterward, from time to time, as the population increased and necessity demanded, other new precincts were formed, and the old ones changed in size, until finally each of the sixteen congressional townships in the county has been made to constitute a civil precinct.

The names of the precincts and the territory embraced in each were Hammond—Township 4, Range 5; Sherman—Township 4, Range 6; Lib-

erty—Township 4, Range 7; Victor—Township 4, Range 8; St. Stephen—Township 3, Range 8; Nelson Township 3, Range 7; Blaine—Township 3, Range 6; Elk—Township 3, Range 5; Spring Creek—Township 2, Range 5; Nora—Township 2, Range 6; Highland—Township 2, Range 7; Alban—Township 2, Range 8; Bostwick—Township 1, Range 8; Beaver—Township 1, Range 7; Garfield—Township 1, Range 6; Hardy—Township 1, Range 5.

In the above the precincts are given in the same order that sections of land are numbered in a congressional township, that is, commencing with the northeast precinct and going west on the northern tier, east on the next tier south, then west on the next tier, and east on the southern tier to the southeast corner precinct of the county.

During the early years of the existence of the county, much of the business of the county commissioners consisted of establishing public roads, and constructing bridges across the streams. The county was early subdivided into road districts, and supervisors for the same appointed. Many districts have since been formed out of the few original ones. In September, 1874, William Loudon and others presented a petition, asking the board to call an election for the purpose of submitting to the legal voters of Beaver Precinct the question of issuing bonds to aid the county in building a bridge across the Republican River, at or near the line between Sections 35 and 36, in Township 1 north, Range 7 west. Whereupon, it was ordered that an election for the purpose aforesaid should be held in Beaver Precinct on October 13 following. The election was held, and out of sixteen, the whole number of votes cast, nine were in favor of issuing the bonds, and seven opposed thereto. Accordingly, on the 16th day of the same month, the board being in session, caused the following entry to be made on the record of their proceedings:

"On motion it was ordered that Beaver Precinct bridge bonds be issued to the amount of ten thousand dollars, in denominations of one hundred dollars each, with interest at the rate of ten per cent, payable annually, to pay for the building of

the Republican River bridge in said Beaver Precinct. On motion it is ordered that a tax of eight mills on the assessed valuation of Beaver Precinct be and is hereby levied to meet the interest on said bonds. On motion the bid of Z. King & Son to build a bridge across the Republican River in Beaver Precinct was accepted and contract awarded according to same on file in the county clerk's office. On motion the bond of Z. King & Son to the amount of twenty thousand dollars is accepted and filed. And Beaver Precinct bridge bonds to the amount of ten thousand dollars was delivered to said Z. King & Son in payment for the Republican River bridge in said Beaver Precinct."

On April 22, 1875, the bridge having been completed was accepted from the hands of the contractors Z. King & Son. At this time the county consisted of Elk, Sherman, Nelson, Spring Creek, Beaver and Liberty Creek Precincts. Elk and Nelson were each divided into three road districts, Sherman, Spring Creek and Beaver each constituting one road district. In December of the same year C. C. Fletcher was appointed to superintend the building of a Queen Truss bridge across Blue River. In August, 1878, the contract for the building of the iron bridge over Elk Creek, at Nelson, was awarded to Raymond & Campbell for \$531.25—the bridge to be fifty feet in length.

In compliance with the prayer of a petition of citizens of Beaver Precinct, an election was held May 6, 1881, when the question of issuing bonds to the amount of \$4,000, to aid in rebuilding the Republican River bridge, at Superior, was submitted and carried by a majority of over two-thirds. Accordingly, ten bonds of \$400 each were issued, bearing date of July 15, 1881, to be redeemable at any time after ten years from date—the first bond to become due eleven years after date, and one every year thereafter, until the last one should become due. The number of votes cast in favor of issuing these bonds was eighty-five, to six opposed. The same month, May, 1881, the contract for rebuilding the bridge was awarded to Hobson, Reese & Sawyer, and in the following winter it was accepted from the hands of the contractors.

The official directory of Nuckolls County from

the date of its organization to the present, will be found of no little interest, the year of the commencement of each incumbent's service also being given. It is as follows:

County commissioners: Adam Simonton, Jonas Hannum and A. Naylor, 1871; Ira D. Kammerer, 1874; James Crawford, 1875; Joseph Carlon, 1876; H. G. Miller, 1877; Henry Wehrman, 1878; E. S. Comstock, 1880; C. H. McHugh, 1880; Joseph F. Schell, 1881; James M. Campbell, 1882; J. R. Weimer, 1883; G. A. Wilkins, 1884; D. D. Brooks, 1885; J. R. Weimer, 1886; G. A. Wilkins, 1887; D. D. Brooks, 1888; Joseph M. Stanley, 1889.

County clerks: Elbridge Downing 1871-; D. W. Montgomery (by appointment), to 1873; Joseph Garber, 1873-77; Jacob Ritterbush, 1877-79; J. P. Hammond, 1879-83; Vincent P. Britts, 1883-87; Frank S. Shaw (present incumbent), first elected in 1887.

Sheriffs: R. J. Harman, 1871-73; Jonathan Downer, 1873-77; M. L. Long, 1877-79; W. A. Scott, 1879-81; P. C. Morehead, 1881-85; T. A. Meeker, 1885-86; Edward T. Worden, 1886-87; A. H. Bowman, 1887-89; E. T. Worden, present incumbent, elected in 1889.

Treasurers: Willis Henby, 1871-73; G. D. Follmer, 1873-79; M. L. Fogal, 1879-83; Joseph Van Vallin, 1883-87; R. M. Gourlay, present incumbent, first elected in 1887.

County judge: E. A. Davis, 1871-73; J. H. Crandall, 1873-74; A. C. Mayfield, 1874-75; L. Seeley, 1875-77; R. N. Simonton, 1877-79; W. R. Knapp, 1879-83; T. P. Coin, 1883-85; E. W. Imbler, 1885-87; J. H. Britts, 1887.

Coroners: F. Naylor, 1871-73; R. M. Akin, 1873-75; A. I. Edwards, 1875-77; R. M. Akin, 1877-79; Dr. H. A. Stokes, 1879-81; Dr. H. M. James, 1881-83; W. J. Rayner, 1883-86; J. H. Geizel, 1886-87; A. G. Robinson, 1887, re-elected in 1889.

School superintendents: Charles Goodman, 1871-73; J. B. Nesbit, 1873-77; H. H. Williams, 1877-83; William H. Gerdts, 1883-85; T. P. Coin, 1885-87; J. R. French, 1887, re-elected in 1889.

County surveyors: D. W. Montgomery, 1871-73; E. A. D. Parker, 1873-77; A. W. McReynolds, 1877-79; E. J. Lewis, 1879-81; A. W. McReynolds, 1881-87; E. A. D. Parker, 1887-89; A. W. McReynolds, 1889.

Representatives in Legislature: R. N. Simonton, 1878; J. M. Cook, 1880, re-elected in 1882; R. M. Akin, 1884, re-elected in 1886.

Mention has already been made, in connection with the organization of the county, of the first court-house, which was erected in Nelson in 1873. Since its use was abandoned, the court-room and county offices have been in the second story of the Opera House Block, where they are at this writing.

The question of levying a four-mill tax on the taxable property in the county, for the years 1876, 1877 and 1878, for the purpose of raising funds with which to build a county jail, was submitted to the electors of the county at the regular election held October 12, 1875, and 109 votes were cast in favor of making the proposed levy and sixty-one against it. The proposition not being supported by a two-third's majority, as required by law, was defeated. Afterward it seems that the county commissioners assumed authority to build a jail, or rather to levy taxes and raise the necessary funds therefor without submitting the question to a vote of the people. After due notice of the acceptance of bids for plans and specifications for a jail building, the board of commissioners, on April 3, 1877, opened and examined the bids, and afterward awarded the contract to — Bostater, of Lincoln. Then on the 19th of September following, due notice having been given, bids for the construction of the jail according to Bostater's plans and specifications were opened and examined, and the next day the contract was awarded to J. B. Randall, of Omaha, for the sum of \$7,459, the building to be completed on or before August, 1878. For some reason, however, the building was not completed on time, and in December following the board resolved to employ men to finish it and deduct their pay from the contractor's claim. It was so finished. The building stands on Block 8 in the original plat of Nelson. This block is very high, and from it a good view of the whole town is obtained. The building consists of a two-story brick above a basement story, and con-

tains the sheriff or jailer's residence and jail. In the jail department there are seven cells of boiler iron, and all is made in a substantial manner. A great mistake was made in locating this building on the south part of the block, fronting to the south and occupying much of the ground that should have been reserved for the court-house.

In response to a petition, the board of county commissioners, on September 17, 1884, ordered a special election to be held November 4, following, to submit to the electors the question of issuing county bonds to the extent of \$20,000, for the purpose of building a new court-house at Nelson. The election was held accordingly, and 357 votes were cast in favor of the proposition, and 1,008 against it. Again at the November election in 1886, the question of bonding the county to the extent of \$30,000, for the purpose of building a court-house at Nelson, was submitted to the voters, and the result was that 423 votes were cast in favor of issuing the bonds, and 791 against issuing them. It should be observed that in submitting the above questions to the people, two propositions were involved, the one to issue bonds and build a court-house, the other to build the court-house at Nelson. For a long time before and after these questions were submitted, the question of re-locating the county seat was agitated. The people of the southern part of the county were anxious to remove it from Nelson to Superior. This fact accounts in a great measure for the defeat of the propositions to issue bonds and build a new court-house.

Afterward, when Nelson had secured the advantages of two good railroads, it already having the advantage of being located less than two miles from the geographical center of the county, the effort for removing the seat of justice therefrom weakened, and many voters who had previously desired its removal concluded to let it remain at Nelson. Accordingly on June 17, 1889, a petition, signed by L. C. Bonham and ninety-eight other residents and electors of Nuckolls County, was presented to the county commissioners' court, asking that a proposition to issue the bonds of the county in the amount of \$35,000, for the purpose of building a court-house, should be submitted to the legal

voters of the county, at a special election on July 30, following. In accordance therewith, the court ordered the election to be held at the time requested. The election was accordingly held, and the question submitted was as follows: "Shall the board of county commissioners of Nuckolls County, in the State of Nebraska, for and in behalf of said county, issue the bonds of said county in the sum of \$35,000, of the denomination of \$1,000 each, for the purpose of building, erecting and completing a court-house for said Nuckolls County, on Block No. 8, in the original town of Nelson, the county seat of Nuckolls County, Neb.?" The number of votes cast in favor of issuing the bonds was 1,136, and the number opposed was 1,003. A suit was then brought to enjoin the commissioners from issuing the bonds, on the ground that they had no legal authority so to do. The suit was carried to the supreme court of the State, and afterward, while it was pending there, the board of county commissioners, having duly advertised to let the contract on November 14, 1889, for the building of the court-house, proceeded on that day to open the bids and found them as follows: M. T. Murphy, \$28,600; W. B. Smucker, \$30,500; Seeley Son & Co., \$28,390; Mock, Storer & Spurck, \$29,475. The bid of Seeley Son & Co., for \$28,390, was consequently accepted, and a contract with this firm was then and there entered into, with a proviso conditioned that if the supreme court decided that the board had legal authority in the premises to issue the bonds, it (the contract) should be valid, otherwise null and void. The decision of the supreme court was to the effect that the board had legal authority to issue the bonds in accordance with the decision of a majority of the legal voters at the aforesaid election. This made the contract valid and binding, and thirty-five bonds of \$1,000 each, were accordingly issued, all bearing date of January 1, 1890, and all becoming due January 1, 1910, with an option of payment after A. D. 1900.

At this writing, May, 1890, the foundation of the new court-house is being put in. It is to be in size 54x107 feet, with a tower extending eighty-one feet above the grade line. The tower will enclose a town clock with four large face dials. The

basement story will be nine feet in height, the next above it twelve feet and eight inches, and the next one nineteen feet and eight inches. The basement story will contain the heating apparatus, foul and fresh air rooms, closets, and foundations of the fire-proof vaults above. The first story above the basement will contain halls, stairways, county offices with a fire-proof vault each for the county judge's, the recorder's, the county clerk's and treasurer's rooms. The next story above contains the court-room, $42\frac{1}{2} \times 55\frac{1}{2}$ feet in size, judge's room, sheriff's and surveyor's rooms, and two jury rooms. The building will stand on the eastern part of the block with front to the east. It will be a very commodious, convenient and substantial structure, and its appearance from all points of the compass will be very handsome. It will soon be completed.

The "poor farm" of the county consists of the northeast quarter of Section 12, in Township 2 north, of Range 7 west. There is thereon a good double frame house and other suitable buildings. Sometimes the county has three or four pauper inmates in the poor asylum, and sometimes none at all. Temporary relief is occasionally granted by the county commissioners to poor persons at their homes—that is to individuals not entirely dependent upon the county for their support.

In 1870, the year before Nuckolls County was organized, there were but eight individuals on the territory composing it, consequently there was so little property here then, that this may be considered the beginning of the acquisition of property within the county. The early settlers were generally poor in this world's goods—were mostly homesteaders—and brought but very little property with them—many none, except a few necessary household goods. Many came single handed, without families, selected their homesteads, constructed their rude "dug-outs," and commenced life comparatively alone on the wild frontier, with abundant faith in God, but no money in their pockets. Thus they persevered, and through their persevering industry, great endurance of privations and the kindness of Providence, they have accumulated a sufficiency of this world's goods to make themselves comfortable and happy for the remainder of life.

They can now sit down under beautiful trees, planted with their own hands, upon their own soil, and call no man lord or master.

The following compiled from the United States census will give the growth, development and acquisition of property within the county from its inception up to 1880, when it contained 621 farms and 43,811 acres of improved lands, valued at \$807,415. Adding to this \$70,593, as the value of farm implements and machinery, and \$295,969, as the value of live stock, an aggregate appears of \$1,173,977 of property, not including the value of town lots and much personal property. The estimated value of all farm productions (sold, consumed, or on hand) for 1879, was \$265,561.

The taxable property in the county in 1880, was as follows: Real estate, \$898,741; personal property, \$247,568; total, \$1,146,309.

The State tax charged on this amount was \$4,584, the county tax, \$21,034, and the city, town, village and school district taxes, \$11,479, making a total of \$37,097. This shows the value of property, as it was assessed for taxation, which of course is much less than its actual valuation. The property of the county for the year 1889 was thus assessed: Lands, \$1,144,313; city and village lots, \$273,745; personal property, \$507,709; railroads, \$705,267; telegraph lines, \$2,248.20; Pullman Palace Car Company, \$1,531.77; total, \$2,634,813.97.

This shows a substantial increase in the value of the property since 1880 of \$1,488,504.97.

The financial condition of Nuckolls County is good, its only bonded indebtedness being for the construction of the new court-house; otherwise it is substantially out of debt. Several of the precincts have a moderate bonded indebtedness for the construction of railroads, an account of which is given in subsequent pages.

On March 11, 1879, a petition signed by R. Hollingworth and 229 other citizens of the county was presented to the board of county commissioners, asking them to submit to the electors of the county a proposition to issue bonds to the amount of \$82,900 to aid in the construction of the St. Joseph & Republican Valley Railroad, from a connection with the St. Joseph & Denver City Rail-

road, at or near the town of Davenport, in Thayer County, through Nuckolls County by way of Nelson to Superior. In compliance with the petition, an election was ordered and held for the purpose on April 15, following, when 458 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and 316 against it. The majority being less than constitutional the project was lost.

On July 18, 1879, a petition signed by 253 citizens of the county was presented to the county commissioners, praying them to submit to the voters of the county the question of issuing county bonds to the amount of \$78,000, to aid in the construction of the Nebraska & Kansas Railroad from Edgar, in Clay County, to Superior, in Nuckolls County. In compliance therewith the question was submitted at a special election held on the 28th of August following, on which occasion 416 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and 361 against it—defeated for the want of the constitutional majority. These were the only efforts made to bond the county for the construction of railroads, and the people may well be proud of and thankful for the wise provision in their State constitution, which saved them from a heavy bonded indebtedness.

The St. Joe & Western, now the St. Joe & Grand Island Railroad, was completed across the northeast corner of the county in 1872. The Burlington & Missouri River, or the Republican Valley Railroad, passes nearly east and west through the southern part of the county, entering it from Kansas on the south, at a point a short distance west of the southeast corner thereof, and running thence up the valley by way of Hardy, Superior and Bostwick, to where it crosses the western boundary between four and five miles north of the southwest corner of the county. It was completed through the county in 1881. The branch of this road leading from Superior by way of Smyrna, Nelson and Angus to Edgar, in Clay County, was completed in 1886. This is known as the Nebraska & Colorado Railroad. The same year another railroad belonging to this company was completed across the county's northwest corner, entering it from the north near the line between Ranges 7 and

8, and running thence southwesterly by way of Lawrence, and leaving the county about four and one-half miles south of its northwest corner.

The Missouri Pacific Railway comes up the Republican Valley from Kansas, and enters Nuckolls County, near Hardy, and follows up the valley until it passes west of Superior, and then bears to the northwest, passing by way of Mount Clare and Lawrence, and leaves the county a fraction of a mile south of its northwest corner. It was completed through the county in 1888.

The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad in Nebraska enters Nuckolls County from the east, near the middle of Township 2 north, and runs thence westerly and northwesterly by way of Nora to Nelson, the county seat, where it has its present terminus. It was completed to Nelson in September, 1887.

The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad enters Nuckolls County from Davenport in Thayer County, near the middle of Township 3 north, and runs thence southwesterly, by way of Oak and Nora to Superior, where it terminates at present. It was completed to its termination in 1889.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad enters the county from the south, near its center from east to west, and runs to Superior, where it terminates. It was completed to this point in 1889.

The length of each of these railroads within Nuckolls County, and their assessed valuation for taxation, are as follows:

Names of Railroads.	Miles.	Valuation.
St. Joseph & Grand Island.....	5.79	\$ 33,582
Burlington & Missouri River.....	20.41	114,296
Nebraska & Colorado.....	33.49	157,403
Missouri Pacific	36.80	150,880
Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific.....	15.36	70,656
Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley..	25.40	127,000
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.....	2.24	11,200
Totals.....	139.49	\$665,017

Nuckolls County has been exceedingly fortunate in the acquisition of railroads, and it is now especially fortunate in having all these great lines of transportation without any bonded indebtedness on their account. But few counties as young pos-

sess so many miles of railway within their borders. The property of the Pullman Palace Car Company, on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, through this commonwealth, is assessed for taxation separately at \$75.05. The property of the Western Union Telegraph Company along the line of the St. Joe & Grand Island Railroad, in the county, is assessed at \$405.30—along the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, at \$1,034.40, and along the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, at \$808.50 making a total of \$2,248.20. According to these figures taken from the reports of 1889, the combined assessed value of the railroad, telegraph, and palace car company's property in Nuckolls County amounted to \$667,340.25. This amount, however, as will be seen by reference to the total taxable property of the county given elsewhere, was increased by the board of equalization to \$705,267.

At the June session, 1886, of the county commissioners' court, a petition signed by Martin A. Hull, and fifty-two other citizens of Spring Creek Precinct, was presented praying the court to submit to the qualified electors of said precinct the following proposition: "Shall the precinct of Spring Creek, in the county of Nuckolls, in the State of Nebraska, aid the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railroad Company, a corporation duly incorporated and organized under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Nebraska, in constructing its railroad into and through said precinct, by issuing to said railroad company six bonds of said precinct of the denomination of one thousand dollars each, said bonds to be issued on the first day of January, 1887, and to be payable to the bearer at the fiscal agency of the State of Nebraska, in the city of New York twenty years after the date thereof, and to be redeemable at the option of said precinct at the fiscal agency at any time after ten years from the date thereof, and to bear interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on the first day of July and January of each year, for which interest coupons shall be attached, payable at the fiscal agency aforesaid?"

Then followed in the petition certain condi-

tions on which the bonds should be delivered to the railroad company, one to the effect that they should not be so delivered until the railroad should be built and completed, and be under operation into and through the county of Nuckolls, from its eastern boundary to the village of Nelson, and a passenger and freight depot erected on the track thereof, within the corporate limits of the village; and provided further that the road should be completed on or before the first day of August, 1887.

The petitioners then filed a bond conditioned for the payment of the costs of the election in the event that such proposition should fail to receive a two-third's majority of the votes cast at such election. Whereupon, the commissioners, having duly considered the petition and all things pertaining thereto, and finding that it was in all respects in accordance with law, granted the prayer of the petitioners, and ordered that a special election should be held in the said precinct on Thursday, the 12th of August, 1886, at the school-house in School District No. 6, for the purpose of submitting to the legal voters of the precinct the question and proposition set forth in the petition. The form of the ballots to be voted in favor of the proposition was ordered to be as follows: "For the issue of bonds in aid of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railroad Company, and the levy of tax to pay the principal and interest of such bonds." The form of the ballot to be voted against the proposition was made the same, except that the introductory word was "against" instead of "for."

The election was held accordingly, and afterward at a special called session of the court, convened September 2, 1886, the commissioners found that out of ninety-six votes cast, seventy-five were in favor of the proposition and twenty-one against it, and that the votes cast in favor of the proposition were (as required by law to give them authority to act), more than two-thirds of the whole number of votes cast. It was thereupon ordered by the board that the bonds of said precinct, to be numbered from one to six inclusive, should be prepared by the county clerk in accordance with the terms of the question and proposi-

tion above set forth, and when so prepared that they should be signed by the chairman of the board of county commissioners, and attested by the county clerk under the seal of said county. Six bonds of \$1,000 each dated January 1, 1887, were issued accordingly.

Similar proceedings were had at the same terms of the court pertaining to a petition and a proposition of the citizens of Nora Precinct, and the result of a special election held therein at the same time.

The proposition was for Nora Precinct to aid the same railroad company to the amount of \$4,000, and at the election seventy votes were cast in favor of granting the aid and twelve against it; consequently four bonds for \$1,000 each were afterward issued and dated January 1, 1887, all to be paid by Nora Precinct. They are in every particular the same, except in amount, to the bonds of Spring Creek Precinct.

On April 8, 1887, a petition signed by Frank Edwards and 135 other citizens of Nelson Precinct, was presented to the board of commissioners, asking that a proposition be submitted for Nelson Precinct to aid the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railroad Company, by issuing to it twenty-two bonds of the precinct of the denomination of \$1,000 each, or \$22,000 as a whole. In compliance with the prayer of the petition the proposition was ordered to be submitted to the electors of the precinct on May 7, 1887. The election was held at the appointed time, and 192 votes were cast in favor of the proposition and seven against it; consequently the bonds were afterward issued by authority of the court, being twenty-two \$1,000 bonds, all dated July 1, 1887, and (as with those of the other precincts above named) to run twenty years from date. These are all the bonds issued in aid of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railroad Company, and amount in the aggregate to \$32,000.

At a regular meeting of the board of county commissioners held in June, 1887, a petition signed by J. H. Coin and sixty-seven other citizens of Beaver Precinct, was presented, asking that the following question be submitted to the qualified voters of said precinct at a special election held for the pur-

pose. "Shall the precinct of Beaver, in the county of Nuckolls, in the State of Nebraska, issue and donate to the Pacific Railway Company in Nebraska, seventeen bonds of said precinct of the denomination of \$1,000 each, to aid in the construction of the railroad of said company?" Then follows the conditions upon which the bonds were prayed to be issued, among which was one requiring the road to be completed from Warwick, Kas., to and into the city of Superior, in Nuckolls County, on or before November 1, 1887.

The prayer of the petition was granted, and a special election ordered as requested, on July 30, 1887. The election was held accordingly, and out of the sixty-six votes cast there were sixty-two in favor of granting the proposed aid and four against. In consideration of the premises and the decision of the legal voters of the precinct, the county commissioners afterward caused to be issued the seventeen bonds as prayed for, for the sum of \$1,000 each, amounting to \$17,000 in all, and all bearing date of July 1, 1887, and all to become due July 1, 1907, with interest at 7 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually.

With similar proceedings, and with conditions changed to suit the different locations, and at later terms of the court, the bonds of Victor Precinct, from one to fifteen inclusive, each for the denomination of \$1,000, or \$15,000 in the aggregate, were issued, all bearing date of January 1, 1888, and all becoming due January 1, 1908, with interest at 7 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually. The bonds of Beaver and Victor Precincts amounting, in the whole, to \$32,000, are all the aid granted within this county to the Pacific Railway Company in Nebraska.

With similar proceedings and conditions, the bonds of Hammond, Elk, Beaver and Nora Precincts have been issued to aid in the construction of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad, in and through the same. Five bonds of the denomination of \$1,000 each, or \$5,000 in the aggregate, have been issued for Hammond Precinct, all bearing date of July 1, 1888, with interest at 6 per cent, payable annually, the principal to become due July 1, 1908. Seven bonds each of the

same denomination, or \$7,000 in the aggregate, have been issued for Elk Precinct, bearing the same date and being the same in all other particulars. Five bonds of \$1,000 each, or \$5,000 in all, have been issued for Beaver Precinct, all bearing date of September 1, 1888, and being in all other particulars the same as the foregoing. Five bonds of \$1,000 each, or \$5,000 altogether, have also been issued for Nora Precinct, all bearing date of August 1, 1888, otherwise the same as the above. This makes altogether \$22,000 that this railroad has received as aid from within Nuckolls County.

Nuckolls, like nearly all counties on the western frontier, is principally confined to agriculture and the raising of live stock. In 1878—only seven years after the organization of the county—it had under cultivation 24,730 acres of land, and the yield of products for that year was as follows: Winter wheat, 1,148 bushels; spring wheat, 80,871 bushels; Indian corn, 220,638 bushels; barley, 17,333 bushels; oats, 21,764 bushels, and rye, 6,694 bushels. Passing on to 1880, the improved lands amounted to 43,811 acres, and the yield of products, as shown by the United States census reports, were as follows: Wheat, 116,382 bushels; Indian corn, 499,698 bushels; barley, 17,066 bushels; oats, 46,703 bushels; rye, 3,250 bushels; hay, 4,810 tons; Irish potatoes, 22,458 bushels; sweet potatoes, 258 bushels; tobacco, 480 pounds. The yield reported in 1880, it must be remembered, was the crop produced in 1879.

The number of acres devoted to the cultivation of each kind of cereals and vegetables in the county, and the total yield for the year 1889, as reported by the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture, in Bulletin No. 1, Series 1890, is as follows:

Indian corn, 80,839 acres, yielding 3,233,560 bushels; wheat, 2,481 acres, 49,620 bushels; oats, 17,274 acres, 1,036,440 bushels; barley, 287 acres, 10,480 bushels; rye, 1,160 acres, 29,000 bushels; flax, 1,664 acres, 16,640 bushels.

The average yield, therefore, per acre of these grains in bushels is as follows: Indian corn, 40; wheat, 20; oats, 60; barley, 36; rye, 25; flax, 10.

Eastern people and all others who look upon Nebraska as a cold and desolate place, ought to

see and study these figures, and learn what this part of the once Great American Desert is capable of producing. Such bounteous yields ought to satisfy the most avaricious.

To show what a locality this is for raising live stock, a comparison of the figures of 1880 and 1889, taken from the authorities mentioned above, is given below. The statistics refer to the number of each of the animals mentioned:

1880—Horses, 1,991; mules and asses, 234; cattle, 4,359; sheep, 1,106; hogs, 14,256; pounds of wool, 6,232. 1889—Horses, 6,980; mules and asses, 676; cattle, 21,388; sheep, 3,188; hogs, 20,896.

This proves that horses, mules, cattle and hogs are extensively raised. Sheep, in this dry atmosphere, and where the ground is seldom covered with snow, do exceedingly well, but owing to the low price of wool for the last few years, have not been increased in proportion to other animals.

Among the extensive raisers of and dealers in live stock within the county are the following: Homer Searle, in the north central part of the county, keeps an extensive stock ranch, and deals largely in all kinds of fine blooded stock, especially hogs. He is said to have a boar that weighs nearly a thousand pounds. George Warren keeps a large ranch in the east central part of the county. The Union Stock Farm of George C. Smith & Co. is located one mile east and half a mile north of Nelson, and consists of 320 acres of as good land as there is in the West for the raising of horses. Half of this land is used for pasture, through which flows Elk Creek, which is timbered on both sides, and furnishes excellent shade and protection from flies during the hot summer weather. The balance of the land is used in raising food to feed the stock. The main barn is fifty feet wide and 106 feet long, is divided into good box stalls, and will accommodate thirty head of horses, besides sulkies, buggies, harness-room, bed-room, granary, etc. A good half-mile track lies just a few rods in front of this barn, where stock can be shown without the usual amount of "ifs" indulged in by many owners for the want of an opportunity to prove their claims.

Mr. Sharp, Hon. S. A. Searle, Henry Wehrman, J. H. Tolley, Mr. Norris, Robert Greenwood and A. R. Downing all have extensive stock farms in the central part of the county.

The Superior Cattle Company, Bosserman & Son, Mr. Gilmore and A. C. McCorkle, of Superior, are extensive stock feeders and dealers. William Dysart has a farm of one section of land, a few miles northeast of Superior, on which he raises considerable stock, and manufactures and sells from \$800 to \$12,000 worth of Swiss cheese per year. Meek & Eaton are now feeding over 2,000 head of cattle on their ranch, near Bostwick. J. W. Kiefer, T. M. Shambaugh and S. T. Durham have stock ranches in the vicinity of Bostwick, and A. W. McLaughlin, of Omaha, owns a stock farm in the same vicinity.

Only a few of the leading stockmen of the county have been mentioned. There are many others who make a specialty of raising live stock, and nearly all farmers give part of their attention to this industry. The following, pertaining to the cattle trade, is taken from a recent issue of the Superior Journal:

"The cattle trade of Superior is rapidly coming to the front once more. Superior is recognized all over the State as a great cattle point, and The Superior Cattle Company is one of the largest firms of the kind in the country, doing business as it does all through this part of the State and in Colorado, with headquarters of that State in Denver, where they have extensive stock yards. We have also several private parties in this city who handle a great many cattle, among them Mr. James Meek, who only last week shipped in one thousand head from New Mexico. The cattle interests of this section of the State are concentrated in this city, mainly through the splendid railroad facilities secured by our people, and it is no uncommon thing to see a train load arrive here either from Colorado or New Mexico. The number of cattle fed in this vicinity can hardly be overestimated, several thousand head having been shipped in during the winter and spring, and with cheap corn and a fair market our cattlemen will make good money on them. It is due to such interests

as these that Superior has become the city that it has, and the interests of these firms should always receive a warm second at the hands of the citizens of Superior. Any firm or corporation doing business in a town will help the growth and do an immense amount of advertising for a town, and this is just what these firms are doing for Superior to-day. Every cattleman in the country knows of The Superior Cattle Company, and consequently knows of Superior as being the headquarters of the company, which affords the city not a little prominence throughout the State.

"It has been estimated that the number of cattle that will be shipped from Superior this spring and summer will reach 25,000 head, which will be a big item for the railroad that secures the most of the traffic, and the competition arising thereby will be the means of securing the very lowest freight rates between this city and all the great markets. We know of no industry of more importance to this city than these interests, and they should receive all the encouragement possible at the hands of our citizens."

The Nuckolls County Agricultural and Horticultural Association was formed in the seventies, and on the 24th of August, 1880, the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 36, Township 3 north, Range 7 west, consisting of forty acres, more or less, was purchased of the State—it being school land—for a "fair ground." This tract of land lies on the level prairie, at the top of the bluff on the south side of Elk Creek Valley, just opposite the town of Nelson. From it—there being no rail or board fences visible, and the few wire fences imperceptible—the whole surrounding country has the appearance of a boundless prairie, with here and there a planted forest, and the deep valley of Elk Creek with its beautiful line of timber coursing through it. From this point the town of Nelson, lying in the valley and on the incline of the opposite bluffs, presents a magnificent scene. The fair grounds are fitted up with a floral hall, a half-mile race-track, a judge's stand, stables, sheds and pens for live stock. Annual exhibitions of the society are here successfully and profitably given.

The lands of the county are classified as Congress lands, school lands, university lands, and railroad lands. The main grant of railroad lands was made to what is now the St. Joe & Grand Island Railroad, and some lands were subsequently granted to the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. Many of the early settlers homesteaded on the Congress lands. Some of the school and university lands are yet for sale. Lord William Scully, of England, owns over 40,000 acres of the finest land of Nuckolls County, in tracts lying north and northeast of Superior, and south and southeast of Nelson, all of which has as yet been kept out of market. This has been a great hindrance to the improvement and development of the county. It is, however, a less drawback now than heretofore, as these lands are now being improved by lessees, who rent for a stipulated price per acre.

The courts of the county consist of the county commissioners' court, the county court and the district court. The composition and origin of the first of these courts has been fully given in connection with the organization of the county. The county court succeeds the old probate court, which was established with the county, and continued under that name until 1875, when it became, by legislative enactment, the county court. The first business transaction in this court took place June 28, 1872, when the first administrator was appointed, Albert E. Davis being the first judge. The first term of the district court, in Nuckolls County was held soon after the organization; and when its first term was held in Nelson there were only two houses in the town, and they were overrun with boarders. From this occasion the following anecdote has been preserved: The second day Judge Weaver was hearing the case of a horse thief. When court adjourned for the night it was evident that the judge would have to send the fellow to Lincoln for a few years. That night the judge, sheriff, the thief and his lawyer, and some others, occupied the same room. The thief awakening in the night, and finding all asleep except perhaps his lawyer, saw his best chance to get clear, and silently betook himself from the overcrowded bedroom, and left for parts unknown, taking with him the judge's

boot worn on his crippled foot. The judge was so annoyed and discomfited without his boot, that he declared he could acquit the man if he would only return this important article.

There have been no very great trials or unusually exciting cases connected with the courts of the county. Perhaps the most exciting thing, and that which interested the people of the county the most, was the question of issuing bonds for the construction of the new court-house at Nelson, as that gave the final decision on the location of the county seat for many years at least. There has never been a legal execution of an individual within the county. Perhaps there might have been, had not the court, on one occasion, been kept from exercising its jurisdiction. In July, 1887, Mr. Henry Sallen, living about a mile northwest of Nelson, drove a lot of stock into the town and sold it. At the same time a low-down, disreputable fellow, by the name of J. Coons, lived there, who was cognizant of the transaction of Mr. Sallen. Supposing that the latter had received pay for his stock, and would carry it home with him, he (Coons) followed him out, and killed him on his way home. Being in daylight, and parties—perhaps not perceived by Coons—being near, he was immediately discovered and arrested, and lodged in jail. On the second night following a party of men visited the jail, called the sheriff out, and forcibly took from him the keys, with which they opened the jail and removed therefrom the prisoner Coons; taking him to the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad bridge, over Elk Creek, in the limits of the town, they put an end to his wild career in an abrupt manner, placing a rope around his neck, and fastening the other end to one of the timbers of the bridge, leaving it several feet in length, so that his fall would be great. After tying his hands behind him, they compelled him to jump from the bridge. The fall was great, and the instant the rope was taut his neck was broken. None of the parties engaged in this business were arrested. It was the end of the whole matter.

About the middle of February, 1890, Charles Stevens and Charles Sherman, with a team and wagon, were passing westward through Nuckolls

County *en route* to Colorado, and while near the village of Oak, the former shot and killed the latter. He then hid the body and continued on his journey to his father's home in Colorado. Weeks later the body of Sherman was found, a coroner's inquest was held, and evidence was produced leading to the conclusion that he came to his death by the hands of Stevens. In due time the latter was arrested at his father's house, and brought back to Nuckolls County for trial. He was arraigned for trial in the district court at Nelson in May of the same year, and finally admitted the killing of Sherman, but denied the charge of murder, claiming that Sherman first shot at him, and was in the act of shooting at him again, when he shot and killed his assailant in defense of his own life. The jury

before whom he was tried was composed of the following-named gentlemen, viz.: B. C. Amber-son, A. C. Bowman, O. B. Odell, A. L. Skeels, J. S. Hilton, E. M. Wright, George O. Hughes, Lars Peterson, L. T. Bethel, J. K. Kern and D. B. Shirely. The trial lasted three days after the jury was empaneled, and on the morning of May 17, 1890, the jury gave in their verdict finding the defendant guilty of manslaughter, whereupon the judge pronounced the sentence—five years in prison.

The legal bar of Nuckolls County is composed of S. A. Searle, R. D. Sutherland, W. A. Bergstresser, H. W. Short, T. W. Cole and Frank Coleman, of Nelson; and Edwin J. Murfin, C. F. McGrew, L. E. Vale and R. N. Simonton, of Superior.



CHAPTER XXX.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES OF NUCKOLLS COUNTY—NELSON—ITS CHOICE AS THE COUNTY SEAT—BEGINNING—ORIGINAL
 BUSINESS MEN—IMPROVEMENT—INCORPORATION—COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY—NEWSPAPERS—SOCIAL FEAT-
 URES—SKETCH OF SUPERIOR PLAT AND SURVEY—LOCATION—FIRST SETTLERS—EARLY MER-
 CANTILE ESTABLISHMENT—GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT—PRESENT OFFICIALS—GENERAL
 INTERESTS—BOARD OF TRADE—PARKS—JOURNALS—SECRET AND OTHER SOCIETIES
 —CONSERVATORY—ATTRACTIVENESS—OTHER CENTERS OF LOCAL IMPOR-
 TANCE—ANGUS BOSTWICK—HARDY—LAWRENCE—MOUNT CLARE
 NORA—OAK—RUSKIN—SMYRNA.

For numerous blessings yearly show'd.
 And property with plenty crown'd.
 Accept our pious praise.—*Dryden.*



THE location for the seat of justice of Nuckolls County was chosen by a vote of the people in October, 1872. Two other localities, besides the present Nelson—Elkton and Vernon—both of Elk Precinct, competed for the honor, but the vote resulted in favor of the place soon to become Nelson, on account of its central location and best accessibility from all parts of the county.

The town was surveyed and laid out early in 1873 by A. R. Buttolph, surveyor, for the original proprietors, Horatio Nelson Wheeler and wife, of Peoria, Ill., and was named in honor of that gentleman. It was located on the east half of Section 26 and the west half of Section 25, in Township 3 north, Range 7 west, being on the north side of Elk Creek, and in a bend thereof, so that the site inclines toward the

southeast. The original plat contains forty-four blocks of twelve lots each, excepting Block 8, which was reserved for the county buildings, and Blocks 22, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39, lying on the creek, and also the blocks fronting on Main and Fourth Streets, the front halves of which were divided into business lots. The north and south streets are named from east to west in the following order: East, Elk, Peoria, Main, Wheeler, Montgomery, Maple and Denver. The east and west streets are numbered from north to south, one to six inclusive. In addition to the above the original plat contained twenty-seven outlots of several acres each. The streets all have convenient width. No additions were laid out to Nelson until prospects for a railroad were observed. The first of these was Peter E. Spurek's First Addition, laid out in May, 1884; the second was M. S. Storer's Park Addition, laid out in June following; the third was Storer's Second Addition, laid out in March, 1886; the fourth was the Lincoln Land Company's Addition, laid out in April following; the next was Storer's Third Addition, laid out in December, 1886; Wheeler's First Addition was laid out in

July, 1886, by Charles R. Wheeler; the next and last was Hanson's Addition, laid out in March, 1887.

The original proprietors of Nelson donated and deeded to the county every alternate lot in the original plat, which were sold from time to time as the county commissioners deemed best. In the summer of 1873 the first court-house, four or five residences, a hotel and two business rooms were erected. Thus began the new town and county seat. At this time the county was very sparsely settled, and the people were compelled to go thirty-five or forty miles north or ninety miles east to railroads for lumber, provisions and farm implements, or to market their produce. Unfortunately for Nelson's growth and development for the first thirteen years of its existence, it was without a railroad, and consequently the trade of the surrounding country was largely building up other towns during all of this time. This kept the town back so that when the railroads came the country was far ahead of it, instead of being far behind it, as is the case with so many overgrown towns in the west. This is now a fortunate circumstance for Nelson, as it has now a prosperous and substantial growth in proportion to the demands of the country tributary to it. It has not had what is generally known as a boom, but a much better thing, a substantial and permanent growth, that will not go backward, but continue to increase with the country around it. The acquisition of its first railroad in 1886, and its second one in 1887, has secured its permanency as a town, and this together with the further acquisition of the new court-house now under construction, will undoubtedly secure its certainty as the county seat.

During the summer and fall of 1887, upon the acquisition of the second railroad, 1,500,000 bricks were used in erecting brick blocks, giving Nelson eight large and elegant business rooms, two large halls for the use of benevolent associations, a good opera house, and a number of rooms for private offices. A number of frame residences and a commodious church edifice were also erected that year, and many sidewalks and other improvements were also made. Since that time other brick blocks and

several churches have been erected. There are now nine brick business blocks, containing in all seventeen business or store rooms and a bank room, in the first story. Three of these blocks are but one story high, five are two, and one (the opera block) is three stories high. There are also a number of brick dwelling houses and offices. The dwellings, however, are mostly constructed of wood. Some of them are large, handsome and commodious, but the greater number are small or medium sized cottages; and nearly all the buildings in the town have a new, neat and tasty appearance. A fact that speaks well for the prosperity of the place is that all are occupied.

On May 12, 1883, the following petition, signed by A. W. McReynolds and fifty-six other citizens of the village of Nelson, was presented to the board, doing county business:

We, the undersigned residents, taxable inhabitants, and voters of the territory hereinafter described, the same being in the county of Nuckolls and State of Nebraska, would respectfully pray that said hereinafter described territory be incorporated as a village, under and by the name and style of "The Village of Nelson," namely: All the territory in the following metes and bounds, that is to say: Commencing at the northeast corner of Section No. 26, in Township 3 north, of Range 7 west; thence west on the sectional line between Sections 26 and 23, 160 rods; thence south on the half section line of said Section 26, 320 rods; thence east on the sectional line between Sections 26 and 35, and 25 and 36, 240 rods; thence north across said Section 25, 320 rods intersecting the north line of said Section 25, at a point eighty rods east of the northwest corner of said Section 25; thence west on sectional line between Sections 24 and 25 eighty rods to the point of beginning. All the sections above referred to being in Township 3 north, of Range 7 west, of the sixth principal meridian in Nuckolls County, Neb. Your petitioners would further show that there are more than 250 actual residents upon said territory.

The prayer of the petition was granted, and O. A. Follmer, Jacob Ritterbush, Ed. Kennedy, Thomas Fickles and E. L. Johnson, were appointed trustees of the town thus incorporated. The corporation has always been well managed, and its financial condition is good.

The general stores of the town are owned and conducted by Ritterbush & Dowland, W. D. Voigt & Sons, and J. C. Smith; the groceries, by Goodrich & Fox, Mealy & Ruble, W. R. Knapp and W.

A. Hunt; the restaurants, by J. A. Fletcher, L. Thurman and W. C. Overlander; the drug stores, by McReynolds & Spurek, John H. Ball and Archer & Hobbs; hardware stores, by Boggs Bros., and the Nelson Hardware Company; the millinery stores, by Mrs. W. J. Baker and Mrs. A. L. Sparks; the livery stables, by J. B. Threlkeld, and W. S. Piper; the farm implement stores, by Crawford & Hutchinson and — Carpenter. Robinson & Johnson have a furniture and undertaking store, M. L. Pierce, a clothing store, and E. D. Jackson, the Novelty Bazaar. The hotels are the Arlington, by Levi Heltzel; the Alliance House, by J. H. Pritts, and the Farmers', by Frank Paddock. There are two blacksmith shops, two barber shops, one grain elevator, two lumber yards, two railroad depots, two large and extensive brick works, five church buildings—four frame and one brick—the latter belonging to the Evangelical denomination, and one very large five-room frame school-house. Rooms are used also in another building for school purposes. A. W. Mock is the postmaster. F. A. Disbrow keeps a harness and saddle store. Storer & Spurek have a coal yard.

There are also two banks in Nelson—the First National, which is the oldest bank in the county, with C. P. Leigh, president; J. A. Devore, vice-president; S. A. Lapp, cashier, and George Lyon, assistant cashier; and the Commercial Bank, with J. H. Geer, president, and F. R. Mease, cashier. The physicians of Nelson are Drs. D. R. Ball, F. J. Patchen, Buffington, West and Stokes. Nelson has a Building & Loan Association, which is doing an excellent work for the town. Many men of moderate circumstances have secured homes by joining this association, and borrowing from it the funds with which to purchase a lot and build a house thereon, and by keeping their dues paid up. Many neat little cottages in Nelson, costing from \$300 to \$500 each, have been put up in this way. The town has also a board of trade, and an improvement company, both working for the mutual benefit and prosperity of the whole. There are other business enterprises connected with Nelson, not mentioned in this sketch.

The Elktonian was the first paper started in

Nuckolls County. It was printed in Lincoln, and published in Elkton, a place then contending for the county seat, by Col. Cropsey. It was established in 1872, and its life was less than a year.

The Southwestern Chronicle and the Inter Ocean were established at Nelson, in 1875. They were of few days, and probably full of trouble, as they were soon removed to Clay County and became the Fairfield News.

The Nuckolls County Herald, now the oldest paper in the county, was established in Nelson in the spring of 1877, by H. A. Day, who, after publishing it one year, sold to its present owner, W. O. Ellis. He has continued its publication uninterruptedly. During the first year of its existence, it was neutral in politics, then for many years advocating Republican principles. It is now supporting the interests of the Farmers' Alliance, with singular care and fidelity, though keeping in mind the county's general welfare. It is a seven-column folio, well edited and well patronized.

The Nelson Gazette was established May 8, 1884, by M. L. Fogel, who conducted it until February, 1886, when F. A. Scherzinger and W. T. Bottonfield took charge of it, and published it until October, 1888. Scherzinger and T. W. Cole, the present editors and proprietors, then purchased Bottonfield's interest. This is an eight-column folio, neatly printed, edited with ability and good judgment, and advocates Republican principles.

Of the secret societies here, Nelson Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., was organized under a dispensation granted March 15, 1879, to Martin L. Schermerhorn, William A. Scott, Howard A. Stokes, John C. Collam, Edwin H. Dowling and Jacob Ritterbush, and a subsequent dispensation granted June 25, 1879, to Sherwood H. Moss, Francis Edwards, A. F. Holcomb, Maj. E. Long, Robert Hollingworth and Ethan A. D. Parker. The charter was granted June 23, 1880, and the other charter members in addition to the foregoing were Joseph Carlon, Elisha S. Gibson, Jonathan Edmiston, Joseph Van Vallin, Orlando B. Tinkham, D. W. Montgomery and Franklin S. Nelson. The lodge has been prosperous, and has a large and commo-

dious hall in the third story of the Opera Block. Joseph Van Vallin is the present W. M., and F. S. Shaw, secretary.

Nelson Chapter No. 27, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized under charter dated June 15, 1888, with H. E. Dowland, M. L. Hollingworth, T. E. Britts and twenty-eight other constituent members. It holds its communications in the Masonic Hall, in the Opera Block.

George H. Thomas Post No. 15, G. A. R., was organized under charter dated May 12, 1878, and signed by R. H. Wilson, department commander, and William Coburn, assistant adjutant-general. The charter members were J. T. Donahue, H. W. Short, Thomas Johnson, J. Wilkes Moore, S. Galley, E. M. Benson, George Zea, Jacob Ritterbush, Thomas Brown, S. L. Hull, Alvin Galley, William Scott, C. R. Stoner, George Cotton and James Crawford. The post meets in the Masonic Hall. H. N. Banks is present post commander, and J. C. Smith is adjutant. This order being recruited alone from the survivors of the armies of the United States, cannot long exist. The soldiers are growing old, and ere the last few scattering survivors shall have crossed the "dark river" and joined the "eternal throng," the order will have ceased to exist. The Sons of Veterans have organized a camp, and meet in the same. They will serve to perpetuate the memory of the veterans.

Delta Lodge No. 107, K. of P., was organized under a charter dated January 11, 1889, with Henry Fox, Jr., C. S. Johnson, S. A. Lapp, F. S. Shaw, J. H. Geer, R. Greenwood, S. E. Davis, H. E. Goodrich, W. C. McHenry, F. J. Bliss, J. C. Scheurer, F. A. Scherzinger, Albert Voigt, A. G. Robinson, J. M. Campbell, G. T. Gregory, E. T. Warden, Lester Hays, E. J. Wilkins, L. W. Knapp, A. H. Bowman, William L. Norwood, B. F. West, C. C. Benner, S. A. Searle, G. G. Wheaton, J. S. Moore, George C. Smith and J. B. Threlkeld. The large number of prominent constituent members bespeaks the success of this young lodge. They meet in Masonic Hall. S. A. Lapp is the present C. C., and G. G. Wheaton is K. of R. & S.

A lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars was organized in Nelson in the spring of

1879, and much is due to it for the strong public spirit against the traffic of liquor.

Nelson Lodge No. 77, I. O. O. F., was instituted September 3, 1879, with a number of the most influential and prominent citizens of the town and vicinity as members. It has, like all other benevolent societies of Nelson, been successful. It meets every Monday evening in the Opera Block. F. A. Scherzinger is N. G. and John Polly, secretary.

The Nelson Temperance League was organized in 1878, with W. R. Knapp, president; H. M. Corbett, vice-president, and Mrs. Mary Polly, secretary. The original members were: Gentlemen—George C. Smith, John H. Robinson, Wilber Knapp, H. R. Atkisson, J. T. Donahue, D. V. Vinson, S. L. Glenn, E. M. Benson, M. C. Long, Warren Knapp, Frank Gourley, S. W. Knapp, M. W. Carter, William Spureck, Samuel Robison, Edward Smelt, F. A. Heed, M. M. Corbett, Samuel Edwards, J. M. Hall, J. K. Long, Charles Roberts, H. R. Corbett; ladies—T. G. Warren, M. E. Corbett, I. E. Polly, T. E. Short, Nellie Winfough, Sarah Robison, E. H. Robison, M. B. Heed, Pauline Ducotty and Josie Atkisson. This was a goodly number in that early day, and in a place with so small a population, to array themselves against the cause of intemperance, and no doubt it is due to their influence and that of others who subsequently joined them, that Nelson enjoys its good reputation for sobriety.

The town of Superior was surveyed and laid out by Will W. Watson, surveyor, on April 10, 1875, for William Loudon, the original proprietor. It is situated on the southeast quarter of Section 26, in Township 1 north, Range 7 west. This locates it in the second tier of sections from the Kansas line. It contains, in the original survey, forty-nine blocks, 286x300 feet in size, except the extreme tiers on the east and west sides, which are 143x300 feet. The streets cross at right angles, and those running north and south are named, from east to west, in the following order: Dakota, Kansas, Commercial, Central, National, Colorado and Wyoming. The east and west streets are numbered from north to south, one to seven, inclusive. Cen-

tral Street, the principal business street, is 100 feet wide, Commercial and National Streets are ninety feet wide, and all the others are eighty feet wide.

The site of the city is a beautiful one, a description of which will be given further on. From the various war-like relics that have been discovered in the building up of the city, it is supposed that an Indian battle was once fought upon its present site. In the spring of 1871 William Loudon and Lewis Crabill came here, and brought with them a herd of cattle. Being young men without families, they took homesteads, and bached awhile together, tended to their stock and improved their places, not dreaming of the town that was so soon to spring up upon them. The following year, 1872, the father and mother and younger brother of William Loudon followed him, and settled on a homestead west of the present site of Superior, and moved into a dug-out there constructed. Loudon and Crabill then became their boarders. Thus Mrs. Mary Loudon was the first white woman that settled in the immediate vicinity of Superior. She was born in Ohio in 1821, where she lived until 1855, when she moved to Illinois, and subsequently, in the same year, to Nebraska. For several years they lived in this primitive dug-out residence, and the Indians, in going back and forth from their hunting grounds, used to stop and make fun of the "pale faces' wigwam." In this humble residence the Loudons once entertained the Governor of Nebraska, the Hon. R. W. Furnas. The first postoffice of the place was located in this dug-out, and named Riverton, but there being another office of that name in the State, it was changed to Superior. William Loudon was the postmaster.

Soon after this Loudon and Crabill put up a small log grocery store, to which they moved the postoffice, and succeeded in building up a good trade for such a new country place. It is claimed that the school-house was the first frame building erected in Superior, and that a Mr. Blivens put up the first frame dwelling house in the place, and that it was the building across the street north of the Cottage Hotel. In 1873 Lewis Crabill married Miss Rachel Jennings, a step daughter of Hon. S.

E. Wilson, and moved on to his homestead with his young wife. William Loudon then became their boarder. In 1875 Crabill & Loudon put up the frame store building subsequently occupied by Alex. Hunter, and moved their stock of goods into it. The same year the building was sold to Mr. Hunter, who put therein the first stock of general merchandise in the village, and Loudon & Crabill dissolved partnership. Loudon then put up another building, and moved the postoffice into it. About this time a traveling artist took a picture of the village, showing that it then contained only three or four houses and a corn crib, and that the only indication of life displayed was the hunting of Lewis Crabill and Lee Burns, with their guns and bird dog, in the locality where the opera house now stands.

In 1877 A. Beal came to Superior, and in company with a partner put up a building and placed therein a stock of merchandise. The same year Mr. S. Timmerman came to Superior, and put up a hotel 49x50 feet in size, and M. L. Fogel engaged in the hardware and grocery business, and Samuel A. Cyr opened up the sewing machine business. William Loudon kept a real estate and collection office.

For the want of transportation, the growth of Superior during its early years was very slow. Prior to the completion through the village of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, all the produce shipped away had to be hauled to Edgar, in Clay County, and the merchandise sold here had to be hauled from that place. In 1877 the population of Superior was reported to be about 150, and in 1878 the principal business men of the place were Alex. Hunter and Beal & McCorkle, who sold dry goods; M. L. Fogel, the hardware merchant; L. Crabill, who sold drugs and medicines; John Cuff & George Fogel, who kept a livery and feed stable; Lee Burns, an extensive stock dealer; Timmerman, & Shuck, the hotel proprietors and also stock dealers.

On August 4, 1879, J. D. Burnes and forty-three others presented a petition praying that the village of Superior be incorporated as follows, viz.: Commencing at the northeast corner of the southeast

quarter of Section 26, Township 1, Range 7 west; thence south 160 rods, to the southeast corner of Section 26, Township 1, Range 7 west; thence west 160 rods to the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 1, Range 7 west; thence north 160 rods to the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 1, Range 7 west; thence east 160 rods to the place of beginning, containing the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 1, Range 7 west.

After due consideration, the board of county commissioners found, as stated by the record, "that a majority of the inhabitants of said village of Superior had signed the petition," and thereupon ordered and declared the premises described in the petition duly incorporated as such village. A. C. McCorkle, M. L. Fogel, V. H. Kendall, E. N. Snodgrass and H. O. T. Bradstone were then appointed a board of trustees for the corporation. A remonstrance against the incorporation of the village of Superior was presented by William Loudon and others, but it was not sufficient to defeat the measure.

Soon after Superior came into existence its few citizens began to look forward and to prospect for a railroad, but they suffered disappointment until 1880, when it became certain that the Republican Valley line of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad would be built, as it was the following year, and gave the villagers communication by rail with all parts of the county. Then everybody was confident that the future existence of the town was secured. In 1880 the village began to take on a new appearance, and individuals owning the lands adjoining the town site, as originally platted, began to calculate upon the additions to the town, which were subsequently laid out. The town had now acquired a population, as shown by the United States census, of 458. Alexander Hunter surveyed and laid out his "First Addition to Superior" in February of this year, and "East Superior," located on the southwest quarter of Section 25, in the same township and range, was laid out in May following, by William Loudon and Austin M. Collett, proprietors.

Prior to 1880 Superior was a wooden built

town, not having brought into use the more substantial material, brick, for building purposes. But now brick was utilized, and a portion of what is now the Union Hotel was made of that material. In 1883 the Opera House brick block was erected. It contains the Bank of Superior and a large store-room on the first floor, and the opera room on the second. In July of the next year South Superior was surveyed and laid out by the Lincoln Land Company, and in 1885 the two-story brick block, now containing the First National Bank and a hardware store on the first floor, was erected. In 1886 the Carter Block, adjoining the Farmers' Bank on the south, was put up, and in June, 1887, North Superior was laid out by the Lincoln Land Company and Alexander Hunter. In April of this year Superior was incorporated as a city of the second class, and the first city officers elected were: V. H. Kendall, mayor; Frank Henderson, clerk; A. C. McCorkle, treasurer; J. T. Kendall, police judge; B. C. Anderson, city engineer. The city was then divided into three wards and aldermen were elected for each.

Being now incorporated and having acquired another line of railway—the Nebraska & Colorado to Edgar—and other lines coming to the city being in process of construction, Superior took on more life and energy, and in 1888 there were more brick business buildings erected than in any other year of its existence up to this writing. Hunter's two-story block with two store-rooms on the first floor, the Central Block (the Thurman Hotel), the Johnson Block, and the Fogel Block, with three business rooms on the first floor, were all erected in this year. Also, in May, 1888, Fairview Addition to Superior was laid out by Alexander Hunter. The next and last year the brick building in which the Farmers' Bank is located, was erected, and Wilson's Addition to the city—the last one—was laid out in December, 1889, by Robert A. Wilson. During the years of the construction of the buildings mentioned, many other brick and frame business houses and dwellings of smaller dimensions were put up, and at this writing, May, 1890, some new business buildings and many residences are in process of construction. It should have

been mentioned that, in 1886, the large brick school-house, now known as the south one, was also completed, and that in 1889 the new brick school-house, standing on the eminence in the northern part of the city, was erected.

There is a large brick livery stable, and aside from the brick hotels, there are from twenty five to thirty business rooms on the first floor of brick buildings. There are many brick residences, and the water works house and some small office buildings are also built of brick. The second story of the brick blocks are used for halls, offices, shops and residences.

The present city officers are as follows: C. E. Adams, mayor; R. G. Nelson, George F. Cotton, J. H. Gillespie, B. C. Amberson, D. Guthrie and I. King, councilmen; H. L. Plummer, clerk; — Sheffer, city engineer. Two of the councilmen belong to each of the three wards, into which the city is divided. The indebtedness of Superior is small and its financial condition is good.

Superior has the Holly system of water works, built in 1888-89, by the city. The designing engineer was W. Kiersted, of Kansas City, Mo. The constructing engineer and contractor was S. K. Felton, of Omaha, Neb., and George Brown was chairman of committee, superintending the construction of the works. The water is obtained from a well twenty-five feet in diameter, by thirty feet deep, by direct pumping, and the supply is inexhaustible. The daily capacity of the pumping machinery is 1,000,000 gallons. Two 500,000 gallon pumps, and boilers from the Pond Engineering Company, are in use. There are three miles of mains, eighty taps and twenty Chapman hydrants. The ordinary pressure is forty pounds, and the fire pressure 120 pounds. The engine house standing near the well at the south end of Central Street is a substantial brick structure. The whole works cost the city \$27,000, and it has been offered therefor and for the franchise to operate them and supply the city, over \$50,000, but it has wisely refused the offer. The city can operate the works and charge the beneficiaries enough to defray expenses and keep up repairs, and thus supply the people with water for a moderate price, but once

let the works pass into the hands of a company or individual, then look out for trouble. This system is much better than standpipes, for direct pressure provides fresh water, not stagnant, all the time. The water obtained from the well is of the best quality of spring water, not led into it from the surface, but being furnished by nature from the earth.

The fire department consists of two hose companies, Big 4 No. 1, and Big 4 No. 2. There are thirty men in each company, and the city has about 1,000 feet of hose. The companies are uniformed. W. H. Morrison is chief of the department. Whenever a fire occurs the hose is attached to one or more of the hydrants near by, and the power is sufficient to throw water upon or over the highest buildings in the city. The water works and fire department combined secure the city from much loss by fire.

The Superior Building & Loan Association was organized in March, 1889, with Robert Guthrie, president; J. D. Stine, secretary and A. E. Hunter, treasurer. The capital stock is \$50,000, the shares are \$100 each, and the weekly dues on a share is 25 cents. A member can take as many shares as he is able to pay the dues on. It is calculated that the shares will be paid up in four years. The association thus far has been very successful, and has already accomplished much good. The members are mostly wage workers, and fifteen of them have already borrowed funds of the association, purchased ground and erected houses thereon. From the secretary it is learned that these fifteen are keeping their dues and the interest on the amounts they borrowed promptly paid up, and that by so continuing, they will in four years have their homes, without having had to pay any more than is usually given out as rent.

The Superior Board of Trade was established in 1880, with C. E. Adams, as president; William Loudon, vice-president, and J. S. Johnson, secretary. The object of the board was to work together for the mutual benefit of its members, and the general interest and upbuilding of the city. The board was re-organized in January, 1890. Its present officers are George W. Felt, president;

C. F. McGrew, vice-president; O. E. Bosserman, treasurer, and Edwin J. Murfin, secretary. The board of directors consist of C. E. Adams, D. Guthrie, W. E. Lawler, F. S. Southard, W. O. Robinson, J. D. Stine, G. L. Day, W. B. McIntire, L. S. Smith, E. V. Hatch and R. G. Nelson. These and all members of the board belong to that class of men that have worked for the advantages—railroad and otherwise—that the city now enjoys. A debt of gratitude at least is due them for the work they have performed and the good results following. Especial mention should be made of Mr. F. P. Bonnell, who for several years past has devoted much of his time and attention to the public interests of the city.

Superior is well supplied with parks, both public and private. City Park, northeast of the business part of the city, comprises an entire block between Sixth and Seventh Streets. It is well laid out and beautifully set with many different kinds of shade trees. It is centrally located in the residence portion of the city, and will be a very pleasant resort when the trees become larger, thus forming more shade.

Lincoln Park, containing about sixty acres, lies directly west of the original town plat, and is traversed by Lost Creek, with its meandering line of timber consisting of spreading trees of elm, oak, ash and box elder. The natural grandeur of this park is magnificent.

The exposition grounds of the Republican Valley Fair Association adjoining Lincoln Park, are provided with a fine race course, and interspersed with beautiful shade trees. Many of the private residences in the suburbs of the city are surrounded with lawns that are so large and so well laid out and ornamented with shade trees, that they may appropriately be called parks.

El Capitan Rancho, belonging to the Superior Cattle Company, and located four miles northwest of the city, contains two beautiful lakes, one covering four and the other sixty acres. It is Superior's summer resort, where the pleasures of boating never cease. Four years ago the owners of this place purchased in Ohio twenty-five spawners, brought them thither and placed them

in the four acre lake, and now estimate their offspring at fifteen millions. Two years after placing the spawners in the lake, they took therefrom about 25,000 stock carp and put them in the sixty-acre lake, and to what extent they have multiplied it is hard to even conjecture, but the lake is full of fish. It is also well stocked with lake trout. In the fall of 1889 the owners took from the small lake 800 fish averaging four pounds each. The water in the large lake is from three to twenty feet deep. The Superior Cattle Company have grazed thousands of cattle on this ranch, and on this is the spot where Albert Bierstadt, the artist, saw the scene from which he made his famous buffalo painting.

The Water-Power and the Superior Roller Mills are deserving of prominent mention. In the year 1875 Mr. William London, with persevering energy, induced Messrs. Schuyler & Barnes, of Edgar, to begin the erection of a mill on Lost Creek at Superior. These gentlemen erected their mill, and cut a race leading from the river into Lost Creek, and thence to the mill, a distance of one mile, hoping to draw enough water from the river, without a dam, to supply the necessary power. But after trial they found this impracticable, on account of the washing into the race of sand from the river, and consequently tore down the mill and removed it to its present site during the winter of 1875-76. Afterward, as a result of much advertising on the part of Mr. Loudon, several persons entered into correspondence with him, one of whom, Mr. Robert Guthrie, of Afton, Iowa, deemed the matter worthy of investigation, and came on and made a personal inspection of the location, and concluded to commence the work at once, and it was undertaken October 1, 1877. A dam of brush facings and sods was completed across the river three and a half feet high by January 20, 1878. In the meantime work upon the mill building was going on, and on May 15, following, the water was turned upon the wheel. The dam cost about \$5,000, and the mill and machinery originally \$12,000, making the first outlay in the neighborhood of \$17,000. About this time David Guthrie, a brother to Robert, came and joined in the enterprise under the firm name of

Guthrie Brothers. The next year the dam washed away, and they were at an extra expense of \$1,500 in repairing it; again in 1881, the dam washed out in such a shape that they were obliged to change it and put in a race one and a half miles in length, which cost about \$9,000, and by so doing secured at least a 500 horse power, with only eighteen inches of dam in the river. Again in the spring of 1882, the head gate washed away, and they were at an expense of \$300 more to get the mill in running order. The work was now completed in such a substantial manner that no accidents have since happened. The mill, as originally constructed, rested up upon a basement 30x42 feet, and was three stories in height above the basement. It has since been enlarged, and is now 50x90 feet with an elevator 30x50 feet in size. The old method of grinding has been discarded, the roller process put in, and the whole mill has been fitted up with the latest improved machinery for making the very finest of flour. Their choice brands are "S4 Patent," "Lyon" and "Legal Tender." They pay the highest price for all kinds of grain, and also the highest price for hogs. Notwithstanding the misfortunes incurred in perfecting their dam, they have, through their energy and perseverance, met with success, and have now a property in their mill and water power that is almost invaluable.

The daily output of flour in 1878 was 100 sacks, and now it is 1,200 sacks. The corn-shelling-mill in the basement shells 700 bushels per day, and the daily output of corn meal is 300 sacks. They ship flour to Texas, Kansas, Wyoming, all parts of Nebraska, and to the other States and Territories.

The outside surroundings of the Superior Roller Mills are fine boulevards, parks, drives and a picturesque lake for boating and picnic parties. The lake island is planted in beautiful shrubbery. The lake also contains the finest varieties of German carp and channel cat-fish.

Superior now contains three banks, three railroad passenger and freight depots, an engine house with eight stalls, two grain elevators, three large lumber and coal yards, five hotels and several boarding-houses, three dry goods stores, two

general stores, nine grocery stores, five restaurants, four drug stores, three hardware stores, two furniture stores, one second-hand store, a musical instrument store, three farm implement stores, a carriage and wagon shop and farm implement house, another farm implement house, a blacksmith shop and plow works, three livery stables, three jewelry stores, two boot and shoe stores, four millinery stores, two bakeries, three clothing stores, two tailor shops, several real estate, loan and insurance offices, three meat markets, three drinking saloons, a notion store, a butter and eggs market, a confectionery store, three harness stores, two wind-mill shops, a flour and feed store, a cigar factory, a book and news store, the postoffice (E. V. Taylor postmaster), several mechanic shops not enumerated, the McCorkle brick works (very extensive), several grain and produce buyers, three printing offices, a photograph gallery, six physicians—Drs. Bradshaw, W. Foster, J. W. Mitchell, L. O. Powell, C. W. Brown and J. S. Butler; several lawyers, five church edifices, two commodious brick school-houses. In addition to the business enterprises mentioned, James H. Kesterson keeps a stud of the best breeds of horses, embracing Normans, Englishshires, Cleveland Bays, and Hambletonians. He keeps seven stallions and also buys and sells stock. A brass band also adds to the attractions of this city.

The Bank of Superior, owned by Meek & Briggs, was established in 1880. A. J. Briggs is cashier. This bank is not incorporated, and consequently all the property belonging to either member of the firm is liable for all of the bank transactions.

The First National Bank was organized June 20, 1886—D. Bosserman, president; E. J. Adams, vice-president; L. B. Adams, cashier. The officers and directors connected with this bank are among the most liberal and energetic men in the city. Their authorized capital is \$100,000, and they have a paid-up capital of \$50,000. This is the wealthiest firm of the city, and also comprises the Superior Cattle Company.

The Farmers' Banking and Loan Company was also established in 1886, by some of the wealthiest

men of Superior and vicinity. This bank does a general banking business, and negotiates loans on real estate, and constitutes one of the safest banks in the west.

The first newspaper published in the town was the *Superior Enterprise*, by William Loudon & Co. Joseph Feree was the printer. From No. 17, Vol. I, which happened to be preserved for several years, the following item has been obtained: "Superior, on the Republican, is a new town, has an eligible mill site, and contains one grocery store and the *Enterprise* office. The two-story school-house is an ornament to any country." This paper was published only about six months. There is no wonder why it was not continued. In a town of such size and a country with only here and there a "pioneer," no paper could be supported.

The *Superior Guide* was established in the fall of 1879, by J. H. Todd and J. H. Graves. It was then a seven column folio, but now enjoys the distinction of being a five column quarto. F. C. Yenny became its possessor in the summer of 1887, and has since and still continues its publication. The circulation which it enjoys leaves no doubt as to its popularity. The *Guide* is now the oldest paper in Superior, and has a large patronage. It is a staunch temperance journal, having long advocated prohibition.

In 1880 J. W. Moore established the *South Western Chronicle* at Superior, but it was of short duration.

The *Superior Journal* was founded in the summer of 1882, by a Mr. Cadwalader, formerly of Hebron, Neb., who continued its publication until the spring of 1884, when he was appointed to the railway mail service. The paper was then taken charge of by John Vedder, who conducted its management until the early part of the summer of 1885, when it was purchased by N. C. Pickard and W. F. Buck. It continued under their control till late in the fall of this year, when Mr. Buck disposed of his interest to E. F. Heltmon, who remained in partnership with Mr. Pickard till the following spring, when he retired, leaving the latter in full charge. Mr. Pickard published the paper till July, 1888, when he disposed of it to its present owner, Mr. J. D.

Stine. In March, 1888, Mr. Pickard conceived the idea of running a daily in connection with the paper, and it has since been published both weekly and daily. The weekly is an eight-column, and the daily a six-column folio. It has always been Republican in politics, except when under the management of Mr. Vedder, who conducted it as an independent. This paper is widely known, and has proven an important factor in advancing the interests of this community.

The *Superior Times* was established March 2, 1890, by Dunlap Brothers. It is a five-column quarto, and has started out with fair prospects of a successful career. The editors, in their salutatory, say: "The *Times* will be an independent paper, subject to the dictation of no party, ring, clique or combination; advocating that which we believe to be right and just, without fear or favor."

Some people of the East imagine that when they go west they go beyond the confines of civilization, and that they must sever all connections with society or refinement; but nothing could be more absurd, for the West contains as many societies and beneficent organizations as the East, and, as a general thing, they possess more vitality, for the western heart is more impulsive, western hospitality more lavish, and public gatherings are more frequent and more sociable. Superior is lacking in none of those organizations that tend to make life endurable and pleasant. Brothers of the Masonic fraternity can here find a hearty welcome in Superior Lodge No. 121, and in Tadmor Chapter No. 37. Brothers of the I. O. F. can find friendship in Valley Lodge No. 87, and rest in Valley Encampment No. 20. The confidence of Knights of Pythias will always be held sacred in Superior Lodge No. 33. To the brethren of the A. O. U. W. the hand of protection is ever extended in Lodge No. 22. To the members of the M. W. of A. the welcome of Lost Creek Lodge No. 595 is ever extended. And to the veterans who carried the stars and stripes triumphantly over their enemies, and preserved and perpetuated our *NATION* on a solid basis, the camp fires of Old Abe Post No. 63, G. A. R., are kept burning.

Other societies also exist in Superior, such as

the W. C. T. U., C. L. S. C., Union Bible Society, etc., where all can find a home.

The Republican Valley Fair Association was organized at Superior in 1884, with James H. Kesterson, president; John Bruce, vice-president; A. J. Briggs, secretary, and Taylor Lewis, treasurer. The same officers are now officiating. It is a joint stock company with a paid-up capital of \$3,500. The exposition grounds, consisting of forty acres adjoining Lincoln Park, were purchased the same year that the association was organized. They are fitted with an excellent race track, an amphitheater, etc. Annual exhibitions are held, and the association has been successful.

The Superior Light Guards, a military company composed of boys from ten to fourteen years of age, was organized in 1887. They are uniformed with blue jackets, pants and caps, and are armed with Flobert rifles, and are thoroughly drilled in tactics. Ed Adams is captain of the company. They have their headquarters and arsenal at the residence of Mayor C. E. Adams, are under his control and discipline, and aside from his assistance they have kept up and maintained their organization without any outside help. Rigid discipline is exercised for the good of the company. Boys can belong to no better organization than a military company under strict discipline.

The city of Superior is well provided with public school facilities, having two large brick school-houses, mentioned elsewhere in this work, in one of which, in addition to other departments, is the high school, and in the other pupils are prepared to enter the high school. But beyond these facilities another school, known as the Superior Conservatory, has been established with the following able faculty: Mrs. Gertrude Coin, vocal and instrumental music; Mrs. J. F. Bradshaw, fine arts; Miss Jean Todd, reading and elocution; Miss Rose Becker, German; Miss Hattie Bonnell, shorthand writing; Mrs. J. W. McKee, kindergarten and primary; Prof. W. Webber, violin and cornet.

All of these instructors have received their education in the best of schools and under the

best of teachers, and are thoroughly competent to teach their special branches.

The advisory board includes Hon. C. E. Adams, G. F. Cotton (president of the school board), Rev. Allen (pastor Baptist Church), Rev. Ewell (pastor Methodist Episcopal Church), Mrs. W. O. Robinson, Mrs. G. L. Day and Mrs. W. W. Kendall.

This conservatory is a school of high order, furnishing a thorough education in all branches taught. Students of the conservatory have the opportunity during the session of listening to several lectures from prominent and successful lecturers on a variety of interesting topics. Concerts and recitals constitute a prominent feature of the courses, and the management aim to present programs of the highest character. Art openings are given during the season, affording the citizens an opportunity of examining work, and spending a pleasant evening.

At the end of the session contests are held in instrumental and vocal music, art and elocution. Gold medals, furnished by citizens, are awarded pupils who distinguish themselves by industry and progress.

The city of Superior has become a railroad center, there being four competing railroad systems, each of which has a line passing through or terminating at the city. The Burlington & Missouri River system has a line passing through the city and county, and one line branching off from Superior. The Missouri Pacific system has a line passing through the city and county, and the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley system, and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe system have each a line terminating for the present at the city. Certainly a place with four competing lines of railway has many advantages.

The site of Superior, for beauty, convenience, natural drainage and health, is unsurpassed. The lower part of the city lies on the first bench or terrace above the river bottom lands. This terrace commences at the Guthrie mill-race, where it rises about ten feet above the bottoms, and has a gradual and even ascent northward sixty rods, more or less, to the first street north of the railroads; thence continuing northward, the ground ascends about thirty feet to next east and west street to the top

of the second terrace, and from thence it ascends with a slight and even grade to the north line of the original town plat, and from thence again the ground ascends more rapidly to the high or uplands a mile or more farther north. Lost Creek bounds the town on the northwest, and passes through Lincoln Park on the west. Between the original town and East Superior is a small "draw" or shallow ravine, leading southward toward the river. The land east of this draw ascends northward more rapidly than on the west side of it. The whole is so located that the natural surface drainage is complete.

As the city lies facing southward, the best view of it is obtained from the bluffs on the Kansas side of the river, but the best view of the city, the river and valley, and surrounding country may be had from the top of the upper school-house in the city, though this point is not as high as the uplands on either side of the river. From this place looking westward up the valley, the village of Bostwick, seven miles away and the bluffs on the south side of the river as much farther beyond, are plainly visible. Looking eastward and a little south thereof, the village of Hardy, seven miles, the village of Warwick, about twelve miles, and Republican City, about sixteen miles distant down the valley, are visible to the sight. Looking in a southeasterly direction, Flat Rock Mounds in Kansas, a mountainous formation of magnesian limestone, extending far above the surrounding country, and Fort Look-out* in the near vicinity, are in view. A grand view can be obtained from this point of observation of the valley, the bluffs and country on the southern side for at least fourteen miles up the river and sixteen miles down it, and a general view of the country in nearly all directions for a like distance can be had. The grandeur and magnificence of the views obtainable from the top of the school-house are beyond expression.

Angus, on the Nebraska & Colorado Railroad, about eight miles northeast of Nelson, was laid out in May, 1886, by the Lincoln Land Company. It

has become a small village, containing two general stores, owned respectively by C. E. Hoyt and Jewett & Co. The post office is kept by John Jewett. There is one blacksmith and wagon-repair shop, a railroad depot and stock yards, also a school-house. The religious societies are the Evangelical, Rev. Gressley, pastor, and United Brethren, Rev. Cannon, pastor. Mrs. Harritt is principal of the village school.

Bostwick, situated on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, seven miles up the valley west of Superior, was laid out in August, 1885, by the Lincoln Land Company, on the east part of Section 14, Town 1, Range 8. It contains twelve blocks, and is very pleasantly located in the valley about a mile north of the river, on the decline between the uplands and bottom lands. The first business enterprise in the village was the establishment of the Day & Frees lumber yard, early in 1886, and the first business houses were erected in the spring of that year by John Green, who opened the first hardware store, J. Hollenbeck and W. Kier who opened the first general stores. There are in the village at the present writing three general stores kept, respectively, by T. S. Durham, S. E. Renshaw and Amos McArthur. Knapp & Phillips have a drug store, and John Green continues his hardware store and runs a blacksmith shop in connection therewith. W. H. Wall also has a blacksmith shop. Day & Frees continue their lumber yard, and A. A. Wiles, who was the first settler across the river in Jewell County, Kas., is proprietor and manager of the hotel and livery barn. T. S. Durham keeps the post-office. Gregg & Kyser, of Lincoln, have a grain-buying agency at Bostwick, managed by F. R. Finnigan. Meek & Eaton also buy large quantities of grain, and feed a great deal to their live stock.

In addition to the foregoing there are the railroad depot, stock yards, a large grain elevator, one school-house, and a population of about 150. There are no churches, and only one religious organization, the Methodist Episcopal, which worships in the school-house. A number of extensive stock-raisers and dealers are in and about Bostwick.

Hardy, situated on the Burlington & Missouri

* This fort was built and garrisoned by United States troops, during the late Civil War, to guard the frontier against Indian attacks and invasions.

River Railroad, seven miles east of Superior, was laid out in June, 1880 (on part of Section 31, Town 1, Range 5), by the Lincoln Land Company. The east and west streets are named from south to north in the following order: Kaley Avenue, Brooks Avenue, Benton Avenue and Beacon Street; the north and south streets are named from east to west: Lowell, Main, Market, Leavitt and Valley. Market is 100 and all the others are eighty feet in width. The first addition to Hardy was laid out in May, 1883, by the Lincoln Land Company, and the second addition thereto was laid out in November, 1885, by the same company. The State line bounds the town on the south, and the Republican River is about a mile further south. About the year 1873 parties in Hebron, Neb., bought land in Section 36, Town 1, Range 6, and started a town about a mile west of the present site of Hardy, and named it Spring Valley. They built a hotel and one or two business places.

In 1880 Horace G. Miller and A. B. Grannis were the principal business men in this village, the former holding the post office.

The first business in Hardy was established in June, 1880, by Hanson Brothers, who opened a hardware store, and Clark & Galusha, who opened a general store. They were soon followed by Horace G. Miller, who moved his stock of general merchandise and the postoffice from Spring Valley to Hardy. The next business in Hardy was by Thomas L. Hull, who put up and opened the first hotel. The business of the town now consists of the Hardy Bank, which was established in 1881, with a paid-up capital of \$40,000, W. H. Leigh, president, and James H. Fair, cashier; two general stores, kept respectively by Milligan & Leigh and Royer & Co.; two drug stores, by McDowell & Bixby and Dr. W. J. Raynor, respectively; a hardware store and the post-office, kept by W. J. Brooks; a farm implement and machinery store, by Con. Gephart; a meat market, by Horatio Morris; the Commercial Hotel, by E. F. Warwick; a restaurant, by J. W. Wilber; a jewelry store, by A. Neigart; a furniture and undertaking store, by Charles T. Forsha; a millinery store, by Mrs. Julia Forsha; a livery stable, by Abbott & Son; a mill for grinding

feed, by Frank Berry; a blacksmith and wagon shop, by Fred Nichols; a flour and feed and coal store, by S. Albert Hall; the lumber yards of Day & Frees; the blacksmith and wagon shop of Hays & Son; the grain elevator of Greeg & Kyser, etc. The town also contains the railroad buildings on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, a fine school-house, an Evangelical Lutheran and a Presbyterian Church. The school-house, a very large and handsome brick structure, stands on an eminence just north of the village. It was built about the year 1885, and cost \$8,000. The Missouri Pacific Railroad runs near the town, its depot being about a mile away.

The physicians of Hardy are Drs. W. J. Raynor and E. D. Beem. The benevolent societies are Hardy Lodge No. 117, A. F. & A. M., Beadle Post No. 72, G. A. R., Hardy Camp No. 36, Sons of Veterans, a Woman's Relief Corps, Hardy Lodge No. 56, A. O. U. W., and the usual church societies. Beadle Post, G. A. R., owns the hall in which they meet. W. H. Leigh is commander of the post.

The Hardy Herald, a five-column quarto weekly newspaper, was established with the town, in 1880, by its present proprietor, Mr. Ralph K. Hill, who, by the way, should be mentioned as doing the real estate and insurance business of Hardy. Mr. Hill has published the Herald continuously since it was established.

The village of Hardy is very pleasantly located on lands inclining toward the river on the south. From a point twenty rods north of the school-house, looking northward, a grand view for many miles of the upland prairies with planted forests, dotted here and there by the farm houses, is obtained. There being none but imperceptible wire fences, the country has the appearance of a boundless and fenceless plain. The most beautiful scenery, however, is beheld from the school-house yard. Looking westward up the valley from this point, the city of Superior—seven miles distant—is plainly visible; and looking down the valley in a southeasterly direction, Republican City, in Kansas, ten miles away, is clearly seen, and between these points the bluffs bordering the valley on the

south, with their undulating and ever changing appearance, and the Flat Rock Mounds in the distant background, are in full view in the central part of the picture. Taken as a whole, the picture is one of most extensive and magnificent natural scenery embellished with art, and inspires the beholder with an admiration for the "handiwork of God."

When Hardy was established, it had fair prospects for the future. It was thought to become a railroad town of considerable importance. It acquired the Burlington & Missouri River line at the same time with Superior. Then followed a contest for the acquisition of other lines and the supremacy as a railroad town. In the contest Superior was the fortunate competitor, and consequently Hardy must remain a small village or trading point, while Superior has already become a railroad center of much importance, having a population of several times that of its would-be rival.

In the Republican Valley, a short distance west of Hardy, is a natural grove, said to be the finest one in Nebraska. It is known as the "Chiles Grove," the land having been entered and settled about the year 1870 by J. M. Chiles, who occupied it before the timber was destroyed, and who has ever since protected it with zealous care. The timber is mostly elm, and many of the trees are from two to four feet in diameter. They are, however, all of a low and wide-spreading growth, making excellent shade. Mr. Chiles, the owner of this grove and other large tracts of land, has a large family and still continues to live in his "dug-out." The grove contains about forty acres, and is frequently visited in summer by pleasure seekers.

Lawrence, situated at the crossing of the Missouri Pacific and Nebraska & Colorado Railroads, in Victor Precinct, four miles from the northern and three-fourths of a mile from the western boundary of the county, was laid out in May, 1886, by Smith T. Caldwell. The village had its origin, however, several years before it was surveyed and platted, having been commenced about the year 1881. It was not surveyed and platted until the acquisition of its first railroad—the Nebraska & Colorado—and its growth has been nearly all since

that time. Being situated at a railroad crossing of two competing lines, and surrounded by a good agricultural country, it must continue to be a good local trading point, but its advantages will not warrant aspirations for a large place. The dry-goods and grocery business are carried on by Weabler & Son, Sherman & Son and Kerr & Estep. The firms of Gillsdoffer & Weabler and Fuller & Wells do the hardware business—the former dealing also in farm implements. There are two drug stores, one of which is carried on by P. C. Morehead, who also handles "Uncle Sam's" mail. The lively barns are managed by Smith & Lemon, and Frank Kenegy. C. J. Leap keeps a grocery store, and Mrs. C. Helton conducts a millinery store. Mr. Friend runs the furniture and undertaking business. Cole & Serly deal in farm implements, and A. Bowman keeps a lumber yard. In addition to the foregoing there are the Bank of Lawrence, the Fremont House, a blacksmith and a carpenter shop, a meat market, two railroad depots, stock-yards, two grain elevators, a school-house and one church—Methodist Episcopal. T. H. Cristy and Mr. Dawson are stock dealers. The physicians are Drs. Barrett and Gulick. The population is about 200. There is a post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Lawrence, numbering about twenty-seven members.

Mount Clare, located on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, in Section 33, Town 3 north, Range 8 west, was laid out by the Superior Cattle Company of the city of Superior. It is a small village or station, and is especially useful as a shipping point for stock.

Nora, located at the crossing of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroads, in Nora Precinct, was laid out in May, 1887, by C. F. Jilson and Jacob Ritterbush. The village is beautifully situated. The grain, lumber, coal and lime trade is carried on by Messrs. Nye, Schneider & Co., of Fremont, Neb. Mr. Moorfin is postmaster and dealer in general merchandise. The village also contains the railroad buildings, a grain elevator, school house, and one church edifice, the latter belonging to the Methodists. It was erected early in 1889.

Oak, situated on the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad in the north part of Oak Precinct, was laid out in September, 1888, by the Pioneer Town Site Company and George D. Follmer. It contains twelve blocks, and is distant sixteen miles north from the Kansas line. It is located in a magnificent grain and stock-raising country, with a tributary territory of eleven to twelve miles in diameter. Though not two years old at this writing, the village contains three general stores, one hardware and one drug store, an implement and provision store, a harness shop, a bank, one hotel, a livery barn, a grain elevator, stock yards, two blacksmith shops, etc. The producing qualities of the soil in the vicinity of Oak are well demonstrated by last season's products.

The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad carried from the town from October 1, 1889, to April 1, 1890, 208 cars of grain, and twenty-six cars of live stock, and brought in fifty-four cars of merchandise. There were at this place in April, 1890, 60,000 bushels of corn in cribs.

Ruskin, situated on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, in Section 15, Town 2, Range 5, is a small post village and railroad station containing a few business houses, and does a considerable amount of trading and shipping.

Smyrna, on the Nebraska & Colorado Railroad, five miles south of Nelson, was laid out in July, 1886, by Homer C. Helms. It now contains only a railroad station house, cattle yards, two dwelling houses, school-house, and a small store building.



CHAPTER XXXI.

SCHOLASTIC MATTERS—APPRAISEMENT OF SCHOOL LANDS—FORMATION OF DISTRICTS—STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT—AVERAGE ATTENDANCE—PRESENT CONDITION OF NEBRASKA COUNTY'S EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS—CHURCH ITEMS—VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS REPRESENTED—METHODISTS—PRESBYTERIANS—UNITED PRESBYTERIANS—BAPTISTS—REFORMED PRESBYTERIANS—CHRISTIANS—EVANGELICAL AND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN—CATHOLICS—MISCELLANEOUS FACTS—DISTURBING ELEMENTS—POPULATION, ETC.

God made the country, and man made the town;
What wonder then that health and virtue, gifts
That can alone make sweet the bitter draught
That life holds out to all, should most abound
And least be threaten'd in the fields and groves?—*Cotter.*



At the December session, 1871, of the board of county commissioners, an abstract of the school lands of the county, furnished by the State auditor, was filed, and Philip Ebbard, Robert

Hollingworth and S. D. Brooks were appointed to appraise the lands. After having performed their duties, these appraisers each presented a bill against the State for the approval of the county commissioners for thirty-one days' work, at \$3 per day, amounting to \$93, and Mr. Hollingworth

presented a bill for the use of his team for the same length of time, and amounting to the same. The board refused to approve the bills, but recommended that each be allowed \$80 for his services as appraiser, and that Mr. Hollingworth be allowed \$60 for the use of his team. In February, 1874, the county commissioners ordered that the school lands should be re-appraised, and for that

purpose they appointed William London, J. P. Hammond and Abner Curry. A portion of the school lands have been sold, and the principal collected has been paid into the permanent school fund, and the interest is collected annually on the deferred payments. A portion of the lands remain unsold, and are unproductive, while some of them are leased, and thus yield an annual income to the school funds. For school funds in general see State history.

School districts began to be formed immediately after the organization of the county, and in 1880 the number had reached fifty-five and the number of school-houses erected up to that date were forty-eight. Many of the first school-houses were built of sods and a few of logs, but in most instances these primitive structures have been replaced with comfortable and commodious frame buildings. The average wages paid teachers in 1880 were \$32 per month, and five-sevenths of them were females. The following statistical information is taken from the last published official report of the State superintendent of

public instruction, it being for the years 1887 and 1888. The amount of school funds apportioned to Nuckolls County in December, 1887, was \$3,981.18, and in June, 1888, \$2,937.35. On November 30, 1888, the number of acres of school lands belonging to the State in this county was 19,055.90; number of acres under contract of sale, 13,995.90, and the number of acres under contract of lease, 5,600. The amount for which the lands were sold under contract was \$106,604.24. The resources of school districts for the year ending July 9, 1888, were as follows: On hand at beginning of year \$6,490.68; received from county treasurer, \$34,909.49; from sale of district bonds, \$812.65; tuition of non-resident pupils, \$59.50; from all other sources, \$3,230.19; total amount of resources, \$45,502.51. The expenditures of school districts for the same year were: Paid male teachers, \$10,770.30; female teachers \$13,633.60; for building sites, etc., \$11,407.56; for other indebtedness, \$1,541.93; for all purposes, \$3,080.50; total expenditures, \$40,433.89; leaving amount on hand, \$5,068.62. The following number of teachers were employed in the county for the same year: Males, fifty-two; females, eighty-five; total, 137. The total wages earned were males, \$10,803.10; females, \$13,171.56; total, \$23,974.66.

The number of children in the county between the ages of five and twenty-one years for the same time were, males, 1,739; females 1,618, total, 3,357; and the number attending school, males, 1,450; females, 1,324; total, 2,774. This shows that between 82 and 83 per cent of the scholastic population attended the public schools. This is a good showing, considering the distance that many have to go, and the further fact that it is unsafe to send young children so far to school without older ones to accompany and protect them. According to the same report the number of school districts in the county was seventy-five, and the number of school-houses seventy-three. Of the latter, two were built of stone, two of brick and sixty-nine of wood, the log and sod houses having all been disbanded. The value of the school-houses was reported at \$61,525, the value of the school-house sites at \$4,631, and the value of books and appa-

tus at \$3,262.50, making a total of \$69,418.50. The number of districts having six months or more of school were sixty-five, the number having school four months, six, and four had no school at all. There are three graded schools in the county, located, respectively, at Nelson, Superior and Hardy. Of these the receipts and expenditures for the year were as follows:

Receipts at Nelson: From State fund, \$438.91; from local taxation, \$2,139.15; total, \$2,578.06. Expenditures: For teachers' salaries, \$1,935; for fuel, \$154.80; for repairs, \$784.31; for supplies, \$390.33; for other expenses, \$207.87; total, \$3,472.31.

Receipts at Superior: From State fund, \$393.01; from local taxation, \$3,123.17; from fines and licenses, \$1,500; from tuition of foreign pupils, \$35; from others sources, \$28.45; total, \$5,079.63. Expenditures: For teachers' salaries, \$2,750; for supervision, \$1,000; for janitors, \$360; for fuel, \$590.07; for repairs, \$200; for supplies, \$316.04; total, \$5,216.11.

Receipts at Hardy: From State fund, \$196.35; from local taxation, \$1,909.88; from fines and licenses, \$500; from tuition, \$7; from other sources, \$100; total, \$2,713.23. Expenditures: For teachers' salaries, \$1,545; for supervision, \$50; for janitor, \$145; for fuel, \$183.09; for repairs, \$22.83; for supplies, \$48.92; for other expenses, \$104.28; total, \$2,099.02.

The following letter of the county school superintendent to the State school superintendent, for the year 1888, speaks well for the condition of the educational system in Nuckolls County:

"There are seventy-five school districts in the county, and with one exception there is a school-house in each district. One has two houses. Two new edifices have been built during the last year, and nearly all are in good condition.

"The majority of the districts are furnished with all apparatus needed in common-school work.

"School officers generally manifest interest in educational matters, and are awakening to the value of our public-school system. Also there is more public interest shown in educational work in the county than at any previous time.

"The teachers are generally competent and well qualified for their work. Most of them take an educational paper, by which they are aided in their labors.

"The schools, with few exceptions, are in good condition. The interest manifested is cheering, and the deportment and industry of the pupils—some of them—I have never seen excelled.

"The work of the superintendent has been visiting schools, holding an institute annually of about three weeks' duration, and holding teachers' associations monthly in various parts of the county.

"A series of school meetings will probably be held in the various precincts of the county, when the superintendent will address the meetings on some subject calculated to awaken a deeper interest in educational matters.

"We look towards the future with hope."

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Nelson was organized about the year 1882 by Rev. John Gallagher, presiding elder. The present frame church edifice of this organization was built in 1889 at a cost of \$3,300, and was dedicated December 22 by Rev. W. B. Alexander. The pastors have been Revs. Beggs, A. B. Whitmer, A. A. Randall, G. W. Hawley, and the present one, J. W. Roysse. The membership is 122. The church building is very fine and commodious.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Superior was organized January 5, 1879, by Rev. George G. Senser, with S. R. Coles and wife, Francis and Mary Edwards, John P. Fogel, Margaret Fogel, Allie Fogel, John Gilliland and wife, Mary Cady, and George Pope and wife as constituent members. In 1880 they erected a frame church building, costing \$1,800, and in 1889-90 their present church edifice was erected at a cost of \$12,000. This building is a frame and wood structure, with the outer wall made of brick, thus giving it the full appearance of a brick house. In the basement story is a large lecture room and a kitchen, and above this is the auditorium. The whole building with its spire presents a very fine appearance. The pastors of this organization, in the order in which they have served, are as follows: George G.

Senser, M. Storer, C. B. Lenfest, A. G. Blackwell, F. D. Asheigh, Francis Deal, A. B. Whitmer and Horace A. Ewell. The membership at this time, May, 1890, is 200. It belongs to the Hastings District of the Nebraska Conference. This church was made an exclusive station in 1889.

The Hardy Circuit of this denomination consists of two organizations, one at Hardy and the other at Bostwick, with Rev. G. G. Morrison, pastor. The Nelson Circuit consists of an organization each at Nelson and Nora, with Rev. J. W. Roysse, pastor. This circuit, according to the last conference minutes, had a membership of 148 and six probationers, two church edifices and two parsonages.

Lawrence Circuit has three or four preaching places, one or two perhaps outside of the county. Rev. E. L. Wolf was assigned pastor of this circuit by the last annual conference. The Methodist Episcopal Church at Oak belongs to the Daventry Circuit. All the Methodist Episcopal Churches in Nuckolls County belong to the Hastings District of the Nebraska Conference.

The Presbyterian Church in Nelson was organized May 10, 1876, by Rev. J. H. Raynard, with Mrs. Jane Case, Frank Edwards, Mrs. Angeline Edwards, Miss Minnie Porter, Miss Annabelle Porter and Mrs. Mary Ritterbush. A frame church edifice, costing \$1,500, was erected in the fall of 1884. It was dedicated June 13, 1886, on which occasion Rev. W. F. Ringland preached the sermon. The names of the pastors in the order they have served are Revs. J. H. Raynard, E. W. Knox, John Woodruff, W. R. Smith, John A. Hahn and W. H. Niles. The present membership is sixty-seven, and the organization belongs to the Hastings Presbytery.

The Presbyterian Church at Superior was organized January 12, 1879, by Rev. George L. Little, with the following constituent members: David Guthrie and wife, J. H. Hunt, Mrs. M. H. Williams, J. C. Poecht, Mrs. A. M. Poecht, Mrs. Elizabeth Stover, Mrs. Alexander Hunter, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Duerr, Frank Schemelling, J. W. Butts, Mrs. Jane Butts, James Hawthorn, Mrs. Sarah Hawthorn, Mrs. N. Webster, Mr. Cassens,

Mrs. Cassens, James F. Graves, J. H. Graves, James Watt, Mrs. Mary Watt and W. A. Woodard.

The first church edifice, and the present one, erected by this society is a pleasant and commodious frame building standing on the west side of North Central Street, in the city of Superior. It cost \$6,000. The pastors of this church in the order they have served have been Revs. E. W. Knox, S. P. Herron, E. M. Snook, W. R. Vincent and J. N. Hick, the latter being present pastor. The church has sixty members, and belongs to the Hastings Presbytery.

The Reformed Presbyterian Church in Superior was organized in 1881, by Rev. S. M. Stephenson. The original members were William Gilmore and wife and three daughters, Lucy, Maggie and Etta; William Stevenson and two daughters and son, Sadie, Clara and J. W. R.; E. W. Hosack, A. J. McConaughy and wife and two daughters and son, Maggie, Sadie and Ira. The building in which they worship is an old frame school-house, purchased about 1884. It stands on the corner of Fifth Street and Central Avenue, and has a seating capacity for about 200. The pastors have been Revs. R. C. Allen and P. P. Boyd, the latter now officiating. The present membership is 115, and the organization belongs to the Kansas Presbytery.

The United Presbyterian Church at Superior was organized by Rev. D. H. Blair, June 24, 1884, with seventeen members. Rev. James McCrea was called as pastor of the congregation, in which capacity he officiated a few years. Recently the church has been without a regular pastor. They have a large congregation, and maintain a Sabbath-school and prayer-meeting.

The First Baptist Church at Superior was organized in 1880, by Rev. W. Archer, with but six or seven members. They worship in a large and well furnished brick edifice (the only brick church in the city) that cost \$4,000. They have a large membership. Rev. W. F. Allen is pastor, and services are held regularly.

There is also a German Evangelical Association in Superior, which has preaching every two weeks in the Baptist Church, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. F. E. Martin is pastor.

The First Baptist Church at Nelson was organized in September, 1876, by Rev. George O. Yeiser, chairman or moderator, with James M. Hall, I. N. Atkisson and wife and daughter Josie, Rev. John Crandall and wife, J. B. Nesbit and wife, and Mrs. Frank Lee. In the year 1887 this body erected their present frame church edifice, costing \$1,500, on Third Street, between Main and Wheeler. It was dedicated in December of that year by Rev. J. M. Whitehead. The names of the pastors in the order in which they have served are as follows: George O. Yeiser (Joseph Carson, supply), W. C. Archer, J. E. Rockwood, E. A. Abbott and J. D. Stapp, the latter being the present one. The membership is about forty. At the original meeting of the Jewell Association, which convened at White Rock, in Kansas, a few days after the organization of this church, it was admitted into that body, where it remained a member until the formation of the South Central Association in Nebraska, of which it is now a member.

The Christian Church at Nelson was organized March 17, 1878, by R. C. Barrow, with E. A. D. Parker, Charlotte Roberts, Maj. C. Long, Caroline Long, Viola D. L. Parker, William C. Overton, Mary Overton, Jacob Galley, Sarah J. Galley, Rebecca Galley, Nellie D. Hall, Pauline Ducotty, Martha Galley, Mary Polly, Emma A. J. Polly, Ella Polly and Maggie A. Brown as constituent members. In 1878 they built their present frame church edifice at a cost of \$1,100, and it was dedicated by R. C. Barrow, November 30, 1879. The pastors serving have been the following: Revs. Sweeney, J. W. Hopwood, William Sumpter, F. J. Russell, A. K. Wright, R. W. Aberley and W. D. DeWeese. The membership of the church now numbers 157, and it belongs to the Nebraska Christian Missionary Society. For the above information pertaining to this church credit is due Mr. James R. French.

The Evangelical Church in Nelson was organized in the spring of 1887 by Rev. T. P. Ash, with the following constituent members: G. Rouse, F. Brookhart, T. W. Vittis, V. Rouse, Elizabeth Werhman, Minnie Werhman, William Hall, Laura Hall, T. C. Schenrer, M. C. Cress, Levi Heltzel,

Sarah C. Heltzel, Celia Heltzel, Amie Grigg, T. P. Ash and A. E. Ash. Their present brick church edifice, costing \$2,250, was completed in 1889, and dedicated in February of that year by Bishop T. Bowman. The membership at this writing is fifty-two, and the church belongs to the Platte River Conference. The pastors have been Revs. S. B. Dillow, T. P. Ash, W. L. Dillow and the present one, S. W. Patterson.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church at Hardy was organized in July, 1881, by J. A. Lowe with Andrew Lowe, Hannah H. Lowe, John Pecht, Amanda Pecht, Henry Garman, Elvira Garman, Samuel Altman and Olive O. Altman as constituent members. Their church edifice, a frame, was completed in the spring of 1883 at a cost of \$2,500. O. A. Lowe was contractor and builder. It was dedicated May 27, 1883, by Rev. J. A. Lowe, assisted by Rev. Samuel B. Barnitz, of Des Moines, Iowa. The pastors have been as follows: Rev. J. A. Lowe from July, 1881 to August, 1883; Rev. Jacob E. Maurer, present pastor, from January 1, 1885. The membership is ninety-two, and the church belongs to the Evangelical Synod of Kansas. A good parsonage was erected in the spring of 1887, at a cost of about \$600. The church and parsonage property is free from all debt.

Following is the history of Bethel Congregation at Weimer's school-house, three miles north of Hardy, belonging to the Hardy pastorate.

By request of one of the citizens of that district, the pastor of the Lutheran Church of Hardy preached his first sermon there on May 27, 1888, at 2:30 p. m. Regular service was conducted every two weeks until the following November, when special protracted services were begun and continued for about five weeks. These efforts were greatly blessed of God, and resulted in the organization of the Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, which took place January 12, 1889.

Rev. J. E. Maurer was chosen chairman of the meeting and Mr. Peter A. Weimer, secretary. After reading and adopting a constitution as prepared and recommended by the Kansas Synod, the congregation was declared organized with ten organizing members whose names are as follows: John

R. Weimer and wife, Peter A. Weimer and wife, Rudolph B. Phillippi and wife, Mrs. H. E. Colborn, Mrs. S. J. Keim, and Mrs. Priscilla Barnhill. The following officers were elected for a term of two years: Mr. J. R. Weimer and R. B. Phillippi as deacons, and Mr. Peter A. Weimer, treasurer.

The following day being Sabbath, a good Sabbath-school was organized with a full corps of officers and teachers. This was followed by the celebration of the Lord's supper and reception of three new members into the newly-organized church. Since that time the work has moved along finely, making the future of this work still more hopeful and blessed. A good Wilcox & White organ was recently purchased for use in Sunday-school and church service.

St. Stephen's Catholic Church, located in the northwest part of St. Stephen's Precinct, was organized in 1875, with August Schroeder, Andrew Bohnart, Peter Yunker, Louis Schumma, John Malony, James Beacham and Michael Morris, and their families. The first church, a log building, was erected in 1876, and the first services were held in the fall of that year. The logs for the house were hauled from Elk Creek. It was used until 1885, when the present edifice, a frame 46x92 feet in size, with a steeple ninety-six feet high, was erected. The priest's house was built of logs in 1879, and the present frame school-house was built in 1882. Rev. Father Lechlightner visited the church and officiated in 1878. The present priest, Rev. Father Stutz, has been resident pastor and teacher of the school for a number of years. About 110 families, mostly German, belong to the St. Stephen's Church. There is no other Roman Catholic Church in the county, but Nelson and Superior are occasionally visited by a priest.

Nearly or probably all of the church organizations in the county, except the Roman Catholic, have Sunday-schools and prayer-meetings in connection with their other services, and most of them have resident pastors, hold regular services, and are accomplishing much good.

In February, 1874, D. W. Montgomery was appointed by the board of county commissioners to represent Nuckolls County on the board of State Centennial Managers.

At the November election of 1879, the question of paying bounties for the destruction of wild animals was submitted to the electors; 313 votes were cast in favor of the proposition, and thirty-five against it.

On January 15, 1885, the county commissioners fixed the salary of the county school superintendent at \$1,000 per year.

In October, 1874, Joseph Garber was elected to represent Nuckolls County in the State Constitutional Convention, held April 6, 1875, and in November, 1882, he was elected to represent the Twenty-third Senatorial District, of which the county formed a part, in the State Senate.

At the regular November election in 1885, the question of adopting township organization for the government of the county was submitted to the electors thereof, and 568 votes were cast in favor of the proposition, and 386 against it. The number cast in favor of it, however, was less than half the whole number of votes cast at the election, and consequently it was lost, and the people were saved from a cumbersome and expensive mode of government.

At the regular November election in 1886, the electors of the county expressed their preference by an overwhelming vote in favor of Charles H. Van Wyck, for United States Senator for Nebraska.

In 1876-77, Springer Galley built a dam across Elk Creek, in Section 20, Town 3 north, Range 6 west, and erected a water-power saw-mill, which he ran about three years. In 1881 he built a twenty-horse steam-power saw-mill, there being no other one in the county. There is not enough timber now in the county to warrant the maintenance of a saw-mill.

On Sunday evening March 2, 1890, Mrs. James Edney, who resided with her husband near the river at Superior, discovered that her three children, a girl and two boys, aged about two, four and six years, respectively, had disappeared from the yard where they had been playing. Thinking that they had gone up the road to meet their father returning home from the city, she did not feel alarmed. Presently the father returned, but without the children. An alarm was then given

and search instituted, which continued until 10 o'clock at night, when the fire and church bells were rung to call out the populace for assistance. The search continued all night, and in the morning the bells were again rung, the people reassembled and a systematic search was inaugurated. The ice was cut and the river dredged, and about nine o'clock Monday morning the body of the boy, James, was found. This was conclusive that they had all found a watery grave. The search was continued for days, but the other two children were never brought to light. The probability is that they became lost in the sands in the river. The girl was the youngest of the three. It cast a gloom of sadness over the city and community for many days, and a life gloom over the bereaved parents.

Early in June, 1878, a severe wind and rain storm, accompanied by terrific peals of thunder and vivid lightning, passed over Nuckolls County, doing no serious damage, however, until reaching Mr. Frank Thompson's residence, some six miles east of Nelson, where it destroyed nearly his entire tract of fine timber, leaving only stumps and stubs to mark the spot. His wagon was picked up and landed some distance below, being smashed to pieces, and considerable other damage done. Leaving his place and passing in a southeasterly direction, similar damage to the belts of timber were reported farther on. A few miles to the east, another storm, passing parallel to the first in a northeastern course, and seemingly a branch of the former, struck the residence of David Warden, whose frame residence was taken completely from the earth and set down bottom upward, lighting on the comb, imprisoning nine human beings in the ruins—Mr. Warden, wife and five children, and an elderly gentleman and lad, who were stopping for the night. One of the small children, a little girl, was the first to extricate herself from the rubbish, and speedily found herself at the bedside of a neighbor, and although unable to speak, the neighbor took in the situation at a glance, and recognizing the child, was soon at the frightful scene, where he found that Mr. Warden had with great strength raised the floor, furniture, etc., sufficient

to extricate himself and wife, leaving six still imprisoned. The work of liberation was rapidly continued, until the last one, an infant, was taken from beneath a feather bed, on which were the remnants of a demolished bedstead, the flooring and other articles. The child was nearly suffocated. Mr. Warden was severely injured, while the other eight escaped with but slight bruises.

The track of the line of storm as it passed through the timber northward was visible for miles. It appears miraculous that a building containing so many persons should be thus raised over twenty feet into the air, turned upside down, and come down with such a crash as to completely mash into small fragments a sewing machine, stove and other furniture, without killing, outright, every occupant.

In 1870 the territory which soon composed Nuckolls County had a population of only eight individuals. Since the organization of the county, its population at different dates has been as follows: 1874, 942; 1875, 1,104; 1876, 1,381; 1878, 2,159; 1880, 4,235; 1885, 7,953. Its population in 1880, by minor civil divisions, was as follows:

Alban Precinct, 120; Beaver Precinct (including Superior village), 642; Superior village, 458; Bohndart Precinct, 405; Elk Precinct, 588; Liberty Precinct, 400; Nelson Precinct, 898; Nora Precinct, 208; Sherman Precinct, 493; Spring Creek Precinct, 237; Spring Valley Precinct, 244.

The population of the county by minor civil divisions for the year 1889, as derived from the assessor's reports, is as follows:

Alban Precinct, 508; Beaver Precinct, 420; Blaine Precinct, 591; Elk Precinct, 630; Garfield Precinct, 356; Hammond Precinct, 379; Hardy Precinct (including Hardy village), 709; Highland Precinct, 250; Liberty Precinct, 565; Nelson Precinct, 452; Nora Precinct, 586; Sherman Precinct, 672; St. Stephen's Precinct, 330; Spring Creek Precinct, 493; Victor Precinct, 729; Nelson village, 889; Superior City, 1,560. Total, 10,119.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

James M. Adams, farmer and stock dealer, Alban Precinct, came to Nuckolls County in the spring of 1880 and purchased 320 acres of good tillable land, then unbroken. He has now one of the best improved farms in his locality, all improved and under fence, with a large wind-engine with which he grinds feed, cuts hay and oats, shells corn, churns, pumps water, etc.; also stock scales, horse and cattle barns, and other out-buildings, about 100 fruit trees and vineyard just beginning to bear, all surrounded by a beautiful grove. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Adams made a short visit to Iowa, and on his return home he was accompanied by his bride, formerly Miss R. M. McKeown, daughter of Henry McKeown, whom he had married in Des Moines County on September 30, 1880, and they are now the parents of five children, viz.: Mary R., William Henry, Ida Pearl, James R. and Richard C. Mr. and Mrs. Adams are both members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Mr. Adams was born in Washington County, Ill., January 1, 1849, to which State his parents had emigrated from the "Emerald Isle" in 1846. His father, William Adams, was reared to manhood in Ireland, in which country he married, and shortly after that event took place he emigrated to the United States, locating in Washington County, Ill., and settled on a farm where he made his home and reared his children. He still resides on the old homestead. James M. Adams grew to manhood in Washington County, remaining with his father until he had attained his majority. He came to Nebraska in 1872, and located in Platte County and engaged in farming there until 1880, since which time he has been identified with the agricultural interests of Nuckolls County, and is one of its most highly respected citizens.

Osborn Ayer, farmer and stock-raiser, Bostwick Township, Nuckolls County, Neb. Mr. Ayer is one of the leading agriculturists of the county, and enjoys the reputation of being not only a substantial and progressive farmer, but an intelligent and thoroughly posted man in all public affairs. He is a New Yorker by birth, being born in Clifton

County, November 27, 1827, a son of Fredus and Parnelia (Hall) Ayer. His father was born in Vermont, and there spent his boyhood and youth, but in early manhood left his native State and settled on a farm near Plattsburg, Clinton County, N. Y., and tilled the soil at this place until 1868. While here he married Parnelia Hall. In 1868 he moved to Nebraska, locating near Omaha, in Sarpy County, and there made his home until his death, which occurred in 1878, his wife surviving until 1881, when she too passed away. Osborn Ayer was reared and schooled in Clinton County, having the advantages of the common schools and academies. When he was eighteen years of age, in 1850, he was seized with the gold fever, left his home and went to California, via the Isthmus, to seek his fortune in the gold mines of that State, and landed in San Francisco. He immediately went to the mines, and for the next ten years was engaged in prospecting and mining, with varying success, in that State. During this time he made a trip to his home, and after a short visit there returned via the Isthmus to California. After a time spent in California he went to Idaho, and mined for one year, and then the war coming on, he enlisted for three years in Company L, California Battalion of Second Massachusetts Cavalry, under Col. C. R. Lowell, and served under Phil Sheridan until wounded. He was discharged for disability in the spring of 1865, having been first duty sergeant in his company. He participated in thirteen general engagements, among which were the fights at Winchester and at Fisher's Hill. In this latter battle he was severely wounded by a gunshot through the leg, which broke the bone and disabled him for further duty. He was sent to the hospital and remained there until the close of the war, receiving his discharge at Wilmington, Del., after which he returned to his home in Clinton County, shortly after receiving the appointment of officer in the Clinton prison, which office he held until 1868. Early in 1869 he came west to Omaha, remaining there about one year, and then, in November, 1870, he came to Nuckolls County and located, at the same time filing a homestead in Webster County. He purchased land in Nuckolls

County and began to improve it, also then living on his homestead in Webster County, which he proved up on in five years, and in 1876 located on the place where he now resides, having broken and made two farms. He has about 240 acres in the home place, 125 of which are under a high state of cultivation, and on this has erected a very neat two-story residence, good barn and convenient out-buildings, etc. Mr. Ayer votes the Republican ticket, and has held numerous official positions, having filled the office of justice of the peace for two years, and served as clerk of elections and as a member of the school board. In Omaha, Neb., January 1, 1870, Mr. Ayer and Rosalthe Brink were made husband and wife. She was a daughter of Oscar Brink, and was born, reared and educated in Albany County, N. Y. They are now the parents of four children, namely: Herbert F. (born June 13, 1871, being the first white male child born in Webster County and the Republican Valley), Wilbur O. (a young man), Lulia A. (a young lady residing with her parents) and Edna P. Mr. Ayer is a Master Mason, and belongs to the G. A. R.

William P. Baker, farmer and stock-raiser, Nelson, Neb. The name which appears above will be at once recognized by nearly all of those of this community, for it is borne by a man intimately associated with the farming and stock-raising interests of Nuckolls County. His parents were natives of Illinois, and both are now deceased. Three children were born to their marriage: Sarah Ann (wife of John A. Craig, a farmer and stock-raiser by occupation), Zelphia (residing in Indiana, and is the wife of William A. Thomason, a farmer and carpenter by occupation) and William P. The latter emigrated to Nebraska in February, 1878, and worked on a farm until he purchased eighty acres of good land, partially improved when purchased. He married Miss Lunica Hill, a native of Illinois, and to this union have been born five children: Jesse (is well educated and resides on the home place), Mary (at home), Henrietta (at home), Lucy (at home) and Alice (also at home). During the late war Mr. Baker enlisted in the Forty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Company B, was mustered into service at Decatur, Ill., and was assigned to the

command of Gens. Grant, Sherman and McPherson, in the Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth Corps. He was actively engaged in the following battles: Fort Donelson, Fort Henry, Shiloh, Corinth, Tallahatchee River, Black River, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss., Champion's Hill, Meridian, Fort Jerusha, Pleasant Hills, Guntown, Miss., and numerous smaller engagements. He merely received a flesh wound, but his life was saved by his watch, a minie-ball having broken the latter all to pieces. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., in 1864, after which he returned home, to Taylorsville, Iowa, and engaged in tilling the soil. Mr. Baker votes the way he shot, and has always been identified with the Republican party, having cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, during his last administration. He is an active member of the G. A. R. Post No. 15, and is also a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He takes much interest in religious and educational institutions, and in fact upholds all laudable public enterprises. Mrs. Baker is a member of the United Brethren Church, and a worker in the Sunday-school.

F. M. Baker, the genial proprietor of the Elk Horn Hotel, Oak, Neb., was born in Gentry County, Mo., in 1843, being a son of Andrew and Nancy (Noble) Baker, who reared a family of nine children to maturity, six of whom still survive. His father, a farmer by occupation, was born in Kentucky, but in early manhood left his native State and located in Monroe County, Mo., afterward settling in Gentry County. He died in Frontier County, Neb., and lies at rest in the cemetery at Arapahoe, Furnas County. The mother was born in Kentucky and died in Missouri. Both she and husband were members of the Baptist Church. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Missouri, and being reared on the frontier, received no educational advantages whatever. Upon attaining his majority he left home and located first at Taylor, Iowa, then in Polk County, and later returned to Atchison County, Mo., and finally, in May, 1876, he came west to Nebraska. Crossing the Missouri River at Brownville, he came to Nuckolls County and located on Section 22,

Town 3, Range 5, buying the occupant's claims. He crossed the Blue at Oak and traveled one-half mile due west, then turned south, and reached the Republican River in one day, then went east down the Republican until he struck Spring Creek, where he camped, and then traveled six miles before he saw a house. He tilled his farm, comprising eighty acres of choice land, until last year, when he left his agricultural life for that of a hotel-keeper. He owns his own building, having erected it one year since, and he and his excellent wife, formerly Miss Louisa Davis, of Polk County, Iowa, spend their whole time in looking after their guests and arranging for their comfort. They are the parents of six children, all living, as follows: Isabel, J. Elmer (a graduate of Nebraska State University), Cal., Will, Elsie and Gertrude. They are both members of the United Brethren Church, which they joined eleven years since, and in politics Mr. Baker casts his vote with the Republican party. He is now serving as road supervisor.

D. R. Ball, M. D., is one of the oldest and most experienced physicians in the State of Nebraska, and in his many years as a practitioner of the "healing art" he has met with well-merited success in restoring to health and happiness those who have placed themselves under his care. He was born in Maryland in 1825, but grew to mature years in Monroe County, Ohio, where he studied medicine under Dr. McMahan, and practiced for some time. After his removal to Iowa he became dissatisfied with the education he had received, and after teaching school for some time, in order to obtain means with which to pursue his studies he entered, at Keokuk, the medical department of the Iowa State University, afterward moved to Iowa City, and graduated in the class of 1856-57. Returning to Appanoose County, where he had previously practiced, he there continued to make his home until 1868. From that time until 1872, he practiced medicine at Albia, Monroe County, Iowa. During the war he served in Company I, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry. From 1872 until 1883 he practiced his profession in Johnson County, Neb., after which he came to Nelson, Nuckolls County, which has since been his home.

He has built up a paying practice, and is a member of the State Medical Association and the American Medical Association. The Doctor was married in Monroe County, Ohio, and has two living children: John H. (who is the proprietor of Ball's Drug Store) and Celeste (Mrs. May, mention of whom is made below). The Doctor is a son of Samuel C. and Hannah Ball, the latter of whom is deceased. The father is yet living, a farmer by occupation, and during the war belonged to a Kansas infantry regiment, serving eighteen months, after which he served the same length of time in a Nebraska battalion cavalry. Dr. Ball's daughter, Celeste, was born in 1850, and took a three years' college course, but was prevented from graduating on account of ill health. She afterward taught school and music, and although she then composed poetry and prose for her own amusement, she did not make any strong effort in the way of writing. She is of a very delicate organization, being of an extremely nervous temperament, but she willingly forsook friends and home for the sake of the husband she loved, exchanging her comfortable home for one on the prairies of Kansas, where she heroically braved the privations and trials of frontier life. During her residence in her prairie home she wrote her first volume of poems, "Sounds of the Prairie." Her shorter poems abound with western scenes, and are tributes to loved ones at home. Her longer poems are "The Cities' Poor" and "Love Purified." The former depicts the condition of the poor in different cities as contrasted with their possibilities when tilling the broad prairies of the West. It contains sharp thrusts at corporations, and appeals to the Government to make its broad domains the homes of its citizens, and not the merchandise of the millionaire. The last-named poem was written with a view to elevating the love of her fellow-women, withdrawing it from the world and centering it upon Christ. These poems are masterpieces in their way, and were they properly placed before the public, would be widely read and highly appreciated. Although such poems must be read as a whole to be appreciated, yet the following verse is quoted as illustrative of the character of "The Cities' Poor."

THE CITIES' POOR.

The crowded cities' poor, supposedly fed—
Can they be freemen while they're slaves for bread?
Awake, fair land! Columbia, awake, and claim
Your lawful right of "eminent domain."

"Sounds of the Prairie" was printed without any idea of it receiving general circulation, but in Kansas, as elsewhere, it has been read with much interest, and well received by the public.

E. L. Beach has been engaged in farming and stock-raising in Nora Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., since 1878, at which time he and his brother purchased 1,000 acres of land, 640 acres being in one body, and the remainder in different tracts, all of which was raw prairie land. Mr. Beach was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., in 1839, being the second child of Phineas and Martha (Meldrum) Beach, whose native birthplace was in the State of New Jersey. The father learned the carpenter's trade in his youth, and all his life followed contracting and building. He moved to York State when a young man, although he was married in New Jersey, and in 1866 came westward as far as Logan County, Ill., and spent the rest of his life in that county, dying about 1883. Politically he was a Democrat. His wife died in 1878, having borne him ten children, eight of whom grew to mature years: Sarah (Mrs. Hungerford, of Lincoln, Ill.), E. L. (the subject of this sketch), Johana (Mrs. Strobe, of Springfield, Ill.), Timothy T. (of Lincoln, Ill.), Eleanor T. (Mrs. Forsythe, of Topeka, Kas.), James, who died at Memphis, Tenn., while serving in the Union army), Susan (Mrs. Pierce, of Lincoln, Ill.), Phineas, Jr. (of Missouri), DeWitt (who is in the Black Hills), and William (a resident of Dakota). E. L. Beach learned the carpenter's trade in York State, and in 1861 moved to Logan County, Ill., but the same year joined the Seventh Illinois Infantry, three months' service, and after the expiration of this time he served for one month in the telegraph service in Virginia and Maryland. He then returned to Illinois and resumed his labors as a carpenter, continuing until he removed to this State. He was married in Illinois in 1863 to Miss Mary Dugan, of Logan County, who bore him two children, both

of whom died when small, and he was also compelled to mourn the death of his wife in 1866. His marriage to his present wife took place in 1868, she being Miss Mary Clark, of Cook County, Ill. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Hardy, Neb., and her union with Mr. Beach has resulted in the birth of four children: Carrie, Mel-drum, Edward and Maud (all at home). On coming to this county, Mr. Beach began improving his large farm, and now has a good stone dwelling house and one of the largest barns in the county, it being 40x100 feet, with a good stone basement, which will accommodate about 200 head of horses and colts. He is making a specialty of mules, and expects to raise about fifty head this year, his brood mares numbering ninety. He keeps a mam-mouth Kentucky Jack, Maltee, fourteen hands high, weighing 1,000 pounds, also a thoroughbred Clydesdale horse which was raised in this county. It is a dark bay with a star in the forehead, and weighs 1,600 pounds, being sixteen hands high. He has long had the reputation of being one of the most successful stock-raisers in the county, and is also a most thorough agriculturist, having at the present time 920 acres of land under cultivation. He is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is president of Nora Alliance No. 717. He helped to organize his school district, and has been its treasurer ever since.

Asher Beal, an early settler and worthy citizen of Superior, Neb., was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, on February 7, 1848, and was reared in that and Tuscarawas Counties. During the summer months he assisted his father on the farm, and the winter months were passed in attending the common schools, where he received a good practical education. When eighteen years of age he started out to fight life's battles for himself and first made his way to Northern Michigan, where he spent a few months laboring in the lumber regions. After this he came westward to Marion County, Iowa, spent three years laboring as a farm hand, and was one year engaged in farming for himself. In 1871 he came to Nebraska and pre-empted 160 acres in Webster County and subsequently homesteaded the same tract. Upon this he resided until 1876, when

he sold it and after spending a year in Crete, Neb., he came to Superior, Neb., which town, at that time, contained less than a dozen houses. Here in the fall of 1877 he and Mr. Andrew C. McCorkle established a general store, the second of the kind in the town. Mr. Beal continued engaged in merchandising until 1890, and during the years 1888 and 1889 he erected the large and handsome brick hotel in Superior, known as the "Thuman House." After renting this property a year, he took charge of it himself, and he is now conducting it in such a way as to bring it into popular and universal favor with the public. Mr. Beal has been twice married; first, on January 27, 1869, to Miss Margaret J. Tidrick, who died on April 12, 1876, leaving three children: Anna Maud, Charles Sumner and Aris Robert. Charles Sumner died at the age of nine years. Mr. Beal was married to Miss Martha J. Crowell, his present wife, on April 12, 1878, and five children have been born to this union: John Earl, Lulu, Dot, Godfrey and Hazel, of whom John Earl died when three years of age. Mr. Beal is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W., and in politics he is a Democrat. He has served one term as justice of the peace, and in 1881 was the candidate of his party for county treasurer, and although he ran far ahead of his ticket he failed to overcome a large opposing majority. He is an upright, worthy man, and he and Mrs. Beal rank among Superior's best citizens. His parents, Harlan and Cynthia (Asher) Beal, were natives of Guernsey County, Ohio, born in 1822 and Harrison County, Ohio, born March 31, 1818, respectively. They were married at Newcomertown, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on February 22, 1844, and became the parents of ten children: Osman T., Asher, Samantha B., L. U., Newton, Amanda, Isaac Harlan, Hattie M., Alonzo and Ananias. Hattie M. died on October 19, 1889, leaving a husband and two children. The father of the above-named children died at Newton, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on January 18, 1867. He was a successful farmer and stock-raiser and accumulated considerable property, owning at the time of his death three good farms. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mother still survives, her home being in Tus-

carawas County, Ohio, and she, also, is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The paternal grandparents of our subject, Isaac and Martha (Todd) Beal, were natives of Pennsylvania. His maternal grandparents were Anthony and Amelia (Parks) Asher, and his great grandparents on his mother's side were Luke and Elizabeth Asher, who were natives of Scotland. The last two emigrated to America, and located near Freeport, Ohio. The Parks family descended from an emigrant from England.

Michael Beam, farmer and stock-raiser, Daventry, Neb. Mr. Beam has spent the principal part of his life in the occupation to which he now gives his attention, and is one of the representative farmers of the county. He is a native of East Pennsylvania, his birth occurring in Dauphin County, on July 18, 1824, and his parents were also natives of that State, the father being a successful tiller of the soil. In 1825 they emigrated to Centre County, Pa., and in 1834 moved with their family to Clearfield County, Pa., a home being chosen in the midst of wild beasts of the forest. Here young Michael remained until 1856, when he removed to Stephenson County, Ill. Both parents are now deceased. Michael Beam was the tenth of fourteen children, five now living: Jacob lives a retired life in Pennsylvania (was married to Mrs. Daughenbaugh); Daniel resides in Pennsylvania and is engaged in farming (was married to Miss Susan Cooper); Jesse resides in Pennsylvania, and is also engaged in cultivating the soil (he is also married), and Margaret also makes her home in Pennsylvania, and was married, but her husband is now deceased. Michael Beam received a very meager education, but by observation and study, and being possessed of an unusual amount of good practical common sense, he has pushed his way to the front, and is now considered one of the well-informed men of the county. He commenced life's battle for himself at the age of twenty-eight years as an agriculturist, and this occupation he has since continued to follow. By his marriage to Miss Juliana R. Thompson, a native of Pennsylvania, born March 19, 1832, there resulted three children—two sons and a daughter: James C. J.

(resides in Kansas, is a machinist by occupation and is employed at Sabetha, Kas.; he married Miss Mary Baysinger, a native of Illinois, and has two children), Phebe Matilda (resides in Nuckolls County and married Philip Glock, of German descent, and a tiller of the soil), and Isaiah Goodrich (resides on the old homestead with his parents, and is well educated for his years; his chosen occupation will be farming and stock-raising). Although he received but very little education himself, Mr. Beam has given his children every possible advantage, sending James C. J. to the high school at Beloit, Wis., and Phebe to the school at Carthage, Ill. Mr. Beam is a Republican in his political views, and takes quite an interest in politics. He is also interested in educational matters, and is heartily and sincerely in favor of good, competent instructors. He and Mrs. Beam have been members and active workers in the United Brethren Church for thirty-five years. Mr. Beam owns 320 acres of well-improved land, and has excellent barns, out-buildings, etc., on his place. He has a good orchard, and raises any amount of small fruit. Of his stock-raising interest he makes a specialty of the Short-horn cattle, and has lately introduced the Red Polled cattle. He also raises the Poland China hogs. He has about eighteen head of horses, and is at present engaged in erecting a large addition, 26x82, to his already large barn, whose dimensions are 40x64. Mr. Beam moved from Stephenson County, Ill., to Nuckolls County, Neb., in the spring of 1883, and here he has since resided. At that time a location was made on the raw prairie, but his present place gives evidence of his earnest, active efforts in reclaiming it from its native state.

Dr. E. D. Beem, physician and surgeon, Hardy, Neb. Among the many physicians of prominence in the county, none have been more successful or won the confidence of the people to a greater extent than has Dr. Beem. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, received his education in the graded schools, and afterward read medicine in Franklin County, under a preceptor. He then attended Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, and graduated from the Pennsylvania University of

Philadelphia in 1870, just three days after he was twenty-one years of age. He first began practicing at Nashport, Muskingum County, Ohio, and later went to Columbus, of that State, where he remained until 1883. He was very successful at that place, had a good practice, but on account of being troubled with the rheumatism, gave up his practice and emigrated west. He had no idea of locating when he first came to this State, but he recovered from the rheumatism, and liked the State so well that he decided to make his home here. He is a member of the State Medical Society, and is a practitioner of decided merit. He was married in Columbus, Ohio, to Miss Hattie V. Miller, and three living children have blessed this union: Clarence E., Raymond M. and Glenn A. The Doctor is a member of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W., and in his political views affiliates with the Democratic party. He is of Dutch descent, and the son of Josiah Beeman, who was also a native of Licking County, Ohio. The maiden name of the mother was Miss Hester A. Oldham.

Minor N. Beeman, a prominent contractor and builder, residing in Beaver Township, Nuckolls County, was born in Bradford County, Pa., July 27, 1836, a son of Joseph Beeman, a native of the same State and county. Grandfather Beeman was born in New York, but in his youth moved to Pennsylvania, being among the early settlers of the county, and there reared his family. Joseph Beeman grew to manhood in his native State, and there married Miss Elizabeth Buck, also born in Pennsylvania, and immediately after his marriage settled on a farm in Bradford County, and there reared his family, consisting of five sons and one daughter, all of whom grew to maturity and became heads of families. The daughter has since died, and one son, Henry, served in the late war, was taken prisoner, and confined in Andersonville prison, where he died. The father was a very popular man in his county, and held a number of local offices of trust and honor, one being the office of constable, in which capacity he served for a number of years. He died in 1845, and his widow survived until 1886, when she received her final summons. Minor N. Beeman left home at the age

of fifteen years, and went to Elmira, Chemung County, where he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for nine years. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-third New York Volunteer Infantry, and served until the expiration of his term of enlistment, in April, 1863, during which time he participated in a number of important engagements, among which may be mentioned Fredericksburg and Antietam, and was on detached duty for about one year. After receiving his discharge he returned to Elmira, and again worked at his trade, and in March, 1867, was united in marriage to Mrs. Jane Zeck, widow of Daniel Zeck (deceased in the army), and a daughter of Harvey Patton. She was born and reared in Indiana, and there married Mr. Zeck. To their wedded life have been born five children—three sons and two daughters, namely: Charles (a young man at home), Bert and Porter, Edith and Addie. In 1878 Mr. Beeman moved to Cedar County, Iowa, and there worked at his trade until the fall of 1879, when he sold out his interests, and in December of the same year located in Nuckolls County, and purchased land adjoining the town of Superior, on which he erected a handsome residence, good barn, and otherwise improved the place, and has been engaged in contracting and building ever since. He also purchased a good farm about two miles northeast of town, and is now engaged in breeding and dealing in thoroughbred registered Holstein and Jersey cattle. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the G. A. R., being the present overseer of the first named order.

J. A. Benson, of Blaine Precinct, one of the first settlers of this county, was born in Darke County, Ohio, in January, 1860, the eldest child born to E. M. and Margara A. (Bowers) Benson, both natives of Ohio, the father a farmer by occupation. J. A. Benson spent his youthful days in Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, receiving an ordinary district school education. He came to this county with his parents in 1873, and has since been engaged in farming and dealing in horses. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, and is greatly respected by all in the community in

which he lives, being a liberal contributor, as far as able, to all laudable public enterprises. He has been successful in business, and intends to make Nebraska his permanent home. When Mr. Benson was nineteen years old he met with a horrible accident. On October 15, 1879, as he was conducting Miss Maria Crosier from his parents' house to her home, a distance of seventeen miles, eleven miles due west of Nelson, as they were crossing the prairie, they were overtaken by a terrible prairie fire; a strong wind was blowing at the time, and Miss Crosier was burned to death, while her escort, Mr. Benson, was so horribly burned as to render him senseless. He remained in an unconscious state for twenty-four hours before any one came to his rescue, but loving hands cared for him, and after six long dreary months of suffering, most of which time he was confined to his bed, and his life many times despaired of, through the wisdom and mercy of an infinite God he recovered, but only to find himself partially blind and a cripple, having lost one eye, and the other injured; he also lost the use of his right hand, and his left hand is crippled so that the fingers are of scarcely any use to him. This heartrending accident will ever remain a terrible landmark in Mr. Benson's life. He is now, however, actively engaged in stock-raising, and is in a fair way to secure a competency on which to live for the rest of his life.

Frank Black, farmer and stock-raiser, lives on Section 6, Town 3, Range 6, Blaine Precinct. The subject of this sketch was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1852, the youngest of thirteen children. His father, William Black, was a native of Germany, and emigrated to this country about 1850, settling in St. Louis, at which place he lost his wife shortly after. During their passage to America, the family were taken with that dread disease, cholera, and all the children died. The father was a cooper by trade, and followed that occupation in St. Louis until the time of his death, in 1858, when his son Frank was but six years of age. He had been a member of the Masonic order, and his lodge took charge of his little son, binding him out to a butcher of St. Louis until he had reached the age of twenty-one years; the little fellow was treated so harshly,

that when he reached his fifteenth year he ran away from his master, and gained his independence, following the butcher's trade until he was twenty-two years of age. He then went to Tazewell County, Ill., and worked in a brick-yard for one year, after which he worked by the month on a farm for about three years, then went to Bates County, Mo., and remained for one season, and then returned to Tazewell County, and rented a farm, working it on shares. In the spring of 1873 he came to this county, and took up a homestead on Section 16; this he improved and sold in 1886, after which he purchased the farm on which he now lives, which he has greatly improved. He has the place well stocked with cattle, horses and hogs, has a fine orchard of all kinds of fruit, and has made for himself and family a good comfortable home. Here he is living the quiet, comfortable life of a farmer, and is very proud of the fact that all his possessions are the fruits of his own labors. In November, 1882, he was united in marriage to Miss Florence Anderson, a daughter of Charles B. and Mary M. (Webb) Anderson, the former a native of Illinois, and the latter of Iowa. She was born in Iowa, in October, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Black are the parents of five children, viz.: Jessie, Charlie, Merrill, Martin, and George (deceased). Mr. Black is an active Democrat in politics, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and both he and wife are members of the United Brethren Church of Pleasant View. Mr. Black has always contributed, so far as able, to the support of schools and churches, and all laudable public enterprises. Since his residence in this State he has been very successful; accordingly is well pleased with the State, and expects to make it his permanent home.

Andrew Bohnart, farmer and stock-raiser, Victor Township. The subject of this sketch is another of the pioneers of Nuckolls County. He is a native of Baden, Germany, born in 1843, being the second child in a family of five children raised by Joseph and Elizabeth (Doll) Bohnart, both natives of Germany. His father was a blacksmith by occupation, and followed that trade in his native land until 1856, when he emigrated with his family to America, and located at Iowa City, Iowa,

where he followed farming and blacksmithing. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Bohnart, but two are now living: Andrew (the subject of this sketch) and Mary (who is in Iowa). Joseph, Layo and August are deceased. After a residence in Iowa City, Iowa, of fifteen years, Mr. Bohnart disposed of his property interests at that place, and cast his fortunes in the then new State of Nebraska, where he took up 160 acres of land, and has ever since made his home. Previous to his coming to this country he served in the German army. He is Democratically inclined in politics, and is a man who takes a deep interest in the affairs of the county. The faithful sharer of his joys and sorrows passed from life two years after coming to this country, in Iowa City, Iowa, in 1858. The immediate subject of this sketch came to this country with his parents when twelve years of age, settling in Iowa, where he obtained some schooling, remaining at home until he had attained his twenty-fifth year. In 1868 he started out on his own responsibility very wisely, by choosing a life companion in the person of Miss Christina Schrader, who was born in Prussia, Germany. For two years following his marriage he tilled the soil in Johnson County, Iowa. In 1870 he came to Nuckolls County, Neb., and took up a homestead of 160 acres of excellent land, which he has greatly improved, and to which he has since added eighty acres of good tillable land, making his desirable farm on Liberty Creek to comprise some 240 acres. He is largely interested in stock-raising, handling a good grade of cattle. His farm, on which there are a fine young orchard and lots of natural timber, besides good substantial buildings and all modern improvements and conveniences, is one of the nicest and most valuable in the county. This has been made entirely by his own efforts, assisted by a thrifty wife, for when he came here his worldly goods were extremely limited, his means being made up almost entirely of energy and industry, but he has subdued the rough prairie soil and has for his pains one of the best places in the county. While so busy in arranging for his own and family's future comfort, Mr. Bohnart has not forgotten the interests of his county, but has always taken a deep

and active interest in all matters pertaining to its welfare. He was one of the eleven men who helped to organize the county in May, 1871. He has held the office of township overseer for a number of years, during which time he has greatly improved the roads, and is now serving on the school board in District No. 28. He is a Democrat in politics, and both he and wife are members of the Catholic Church. They are the parents of six children: Kattie, Lizzie, Louis, Anna, Andrew and Joseph. The eldest child, Kattie, is now Mrs. Andrew Hefstiter, and lives in this county.

David Bosserman, president of the First National Bank, Superior, Neb. Among those prominently connected with the rise and progress of the town of Superior is David Bosserman, one of the representative men of the county. He was the youngest of fifteen children, six of whom are living, born to the union of Michael and Catherine (Whip) Bosserman, the former a native of Virginia, although reared from early youth in Bedford County, Pa. The father was a farmer by occupation, and received his final summons in 1866. The mother had died about 1847. Their children were named as follows: Margaret, Mary Ann, Hannah, Susannah, Barbara, Elizabeth, Catherine, Samuel, John, Michael, Daniel, Mary, Lydia, Elijah and David. Those living are Hannah, Barbara, John, Michael, Elijah, and David Bosserman, who was born in Perry County, Ohio, November 9, 1831, and passed his boyhood days on a farm in his native county. On January 12, 1852, his marriage with Miss Catherine Cowen, a native of Licking County, Ohio, and the daughter of Charles Cowen, was consummated, and to them were born the following children: Martha, Elijah, Walter (deceased), Benjamin Lincoln, John H., Althalia F. and Nannie. Mr. Bosserman removed to De Witt County, Ill., in the fall of 1852, and there resided for thirty years, engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. There his wife died in September, 1871. In December, 1873, he was married to Miss Kissie Hollenbeck, a native of Freeport, Ill., and the daughter of William Hollenbeck. In the spring of 1882 Mr. Bosserman emigrated to Nebraska, located at Superior, and here engaged in the live-stock (cattle)

and land business in partnership with his sons, Elijah and Lincoln, and his son-in-law, W. A. Myers. The business was transacted under the firm title of D. Bosserman & Co., and was continued four years. In 1855 Mr. Bosserman, together with his sons, Elijah, Lincoln and John, also C. E. Adams, L. B. Adams, C. J. Adams, Jacob Adams, Henry Myers and W. A. Myers, organized the Commercial Bank of Superior, and also the Superior Cattle Company, Mr. Bosserman being made president of the bank. The Commercial Bank was succeeded by the First National Bank in July, 1886, and of it Mr. Bosserman has been president ever since. He is also still connected with the Superior Cattle Company. He is a member of the Masonic lodge, also the I. O. O. F. lodge, which he joined in 1855, and was an active member in the same for a great many years. He affiliates with the Republican party in his political views, and is one of Superior's most substantial and influential men.

John Bowes, farmer and stock-raiser. England has furnished many representative men to Nuckolls County, but none who are more truly honored and esteemed than the subject of this sketch. A brief outline of his life will be read with interest. He was born in Durham County, England, in 1832, being the fourth of eight children born to David and Elizabeth (Gibson) Bowes, both natives of Durham County, England. When the subject of this sketch was in his fourteenth year his parents decided to seek fame fortune in America, and accordingly turned their backs upon their native land and emigrated to the United States, locating in La Fayette County, Wis. Here they purchased land, and made their home until 1853, when they moved to Iowa County, Wis. They purchased 160 acres of good land, which Mr. Bowes improved and made a good home, on which he resided until 1887, when he closed his eyes to the scenes of this world forevermore, leaving a widow who still survives, making her home on the old homestead in Wisconsin. The immediate subject of this sketch was reared to farm life, and obtained his education in the schools of England. Early in life he commenced on his own

responsibility by engaging in agricultural pursuits in Iowa County. On August 21, 1862, he took up arms in defense of his adopted country, enlisting for three years in Company B, Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, was mustered into service at Madison, and served under Gen. Thomas. He was on garrison duty. He was at Fort Wadsworth, Dak., during the Indian massacre, then went to Benton Barracks, then to Paducah, Ky., and reached this last-named place after many days of hard marching. He was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., in September, 1865, after which he returned to his home in Iowa County, Wis., and the following year (1866) led Miss Mary Ann Hillery to the altar, and they became husband and wife. She was born in La Fayette County, Wis., a daughter of John and Mary (Brunskell) Hillery, both of whom were born and reared in England, and came to La Fayette County, Wis., in 1845, thence in 1854 to Iowa County, where they cleared a farm and tilled the soil until the death of the father in 1869. His widow survived until 1872. After his marriage Mr. Bowes took up a farm of eighty acres, which he improved, and in 1885 came to Nuckolls County and located 160 acres of partly improved land, and here he has since made his home. He has since planted a good orchard, and devotes considerable attention to stock-raising. Although not active politically, Mr. Bowes always casts his vote with the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Bowes are members of the United Brethren Church, and are the parents of two children, J. D. and George E. Since coming to this county, Mr. Bowes has always identified himself with every move tending to the welfare of the community, contributing as far as able to all laudable public enterprises.

Charles Bowes is a gentleman who is in every way worthy to be classed among the foremost of the progressive and successful farmers and stock-raisers of Nuckolls County. He has resided here since 1881, moving from Wisconsin, but originally came from Durham, England, where he was born in 1844, being the youngest of eighteen children born to David and Elizabeth (Gibson) Bowes, they being natives of Durhamsire, England. In 1846 they emigrated to America and settled in La Fayette

County, Wis., and although Mr. Bowes was offered forty acres of land where the city of Chicago now stands he did not close the bargain. In 1853 he moved to Iowa County, Wis., purchased some land of the Indians, and here made his home until his death, which occurred in 1888. The mother still resides on this farm, and is eighty-nine years of age. In the common schools of Iowa County, Wis., Charles Bowes acquired a fair knowledge of the "world of books," and at the age of twenty-one years began the battle of life for himself. He was married there in 1862, his wife, whose maiden name was Ann Bell, having been born in Durhamshire, England, a daughter of George and Sarah Bell, who came to the United States in 1853 and settled in Grant County, Wis., where the mother, who is now a widow, still resides. In 1872 Mr. Bowes came to Nebraska and bought 160 acres of land, which he immediately began putting in a condition for tilling. He soon had all necessary buildings erected and a large orchard set out, and this year has planted a number of trees. In addition to tilling the soil he has been engaged in threshing for thirty-three years. Although not an active politician, he votes with the Republican party, and he also belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. On first locating here there was only one house between his home and the town of Superior, but it is now thickly settled. He has always taken an active part in everything for the good of the county, and did all in his power to secure the location of the county court-house at Nelson. He is much pleased with the State of Nebraska, and expects to make it his home for all time. His marriage has resulted in the birth of ten children (two of whom are deceased): Sarah E. (Mrs. Overton, of Nelson), Ann E. (Mrs. Badgley, of Kearney County, Neb.), Martha M. (Mrs. Burnham, residing on a farm in Nuckolls County), Ida H. (Mrs. Benner, of Newcastle, Wyo.), Charles L., Oliver D., George W. and Mary M. Mr. and Mrs. Bowes are members of the United Brethren Church.

V. P. Britts, a prominent agriculturist of Elk Precinct, Nuckolls County, was born in Montgomery County, Ind., in July, 1850, being the oldest child born to the marriage of John and Mahala

(Roberts) Britts, natives of Virginia and Kentucky respectively. His father was a miller by occupation, and died in Indiana in about 1852. After his death his widow removed to Iowa, in which State our subject grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education, and at the age of eighteen years commenced life on his own responsibility as a farmer, in Guthrie County. In 1872 he came to this county but remained only for a few months and then went to the eastern part of the State, near Omaha, where he remained until the spring of 1874, when he returned to this county and leased 160 acres of school lands, and purchased 160 acres more, which he improved and sold. He has since purchased 680 acres of choice land in this precinct, and cultivates about 160 acres of this, having the balance in pasture. He has taken an active interest in political matters, and affiliates with the Republican party. He has served as county clerk, and also precinct assessor for two terms successively. He is a Royal Arch Mason. Mr. Britts was married in February, 1884, to Miss Jennie Graham, daughter of Michael and Charlotte (Short) Graham, both of whom were natives of England, and one child has been given them, a bright little girl named Mona L. Mrs. Britts was born in Canada. Mr. Britts has been unusually successful since locating here, is well pleased with the country, and expects to make it his permanent home.

David Dunham Brooks, farmer and stock-raiser, Angus, Neb. Mr. Brooks is one of the leading citizens, farmers and stock-raisers in Sherman Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., and resides on the southeast quarter of Section 28, one-half mile from Angus. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born on July 28, 1835, and is one of nine children who were named as follows: Almond D. (resides in Sherman Precinct and is a farmer by occupation), Cynthia (deceased), Sylvester H. (deceased), Daniel A. (resides in Pulaski County, Ky., and is a farmer by occupation), Lucretia (deceased), Lydia (residing in Moultrie County, Ill.; she married a man by the name of Shockey, who was accidentally shot and she afterward married a Mr. Wheeler, a native of Tennessee and a farmer by occupation), Maria (de-

ceased), David D., and F. Marion (who enlisted in the Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Company E, during the late Rebellion and was killed). The father of these children was a native of Vermont, and was a lawyer by profession. The mother was of German descent. Neither are living. David D. Brooks was married in Madison County, Ohio, on January 2, 1866, to Miss Olive M. Bidwell. He had limited educational advantages, not having attended the subscription schools more than three months altogether, but by observation and study later in life, has become a thoroughly-posted man on all the current topics of the day. Mr. Brooks was left an orphan at the age of eight years, and was reared with none of the home comforts to cheer his boyish heart. But God, in His infinite wisdom and benevolence, has taken him as in the hollow of His hand and has kept him all these intervening years, and placed him upon the high plane of prosperity and honor. Mrs. Brooks was born July 28, 1842, on the same day of the month and in the same house where her husband was born seven years previously. She received a good education in the common schools and also attended the high-schools of London, Madison County, Ohio. Mr. Brooks made Indiana his home until twenty-one years of age and during that time was engaged in agricultural pursuits. On July 21, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Twenty-sixth Ohio Infantry, Second Division and Fourth Army Corps, from Madison County, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He was mustered into service at Camp Chase, and was immediately sent to the front. His regiment was engaged in the following battles: Perryville, Ky., Murfreesboro, Tenn. (where he was under Gen. Rosencrans), Pittsburg Landing or Shiloh, Corinth, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Tunnell Hill, Resaca, Dalton, Kingston, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Lovejoy Station, the two-days' battle of Nashville and also in many smaller engagements. He never received a wound, but often had his clothing perforated with bullets, and although he enlisted as a private, so marked was his bravery and so thorough was his discipline that he was gradually promoted to the position of first lieutenant in his

company. He was the only officer left to muster out his company at the close of the war. This is only another example to indicate what integrity and general worth will accomplish. The Fourth Army Corps was sent to Texas after cessation of hostilities to settle the Mexican trouble, and while there the troops were mustered out of service and honorably discharged at Victoria on October 21, 1865. They then returned to Columbus, Ohio, where the brave defenders of the Union received their pay and went to their homes. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks emigrated to Harrison County, Mo., and after a residence there of six years, or until 1872, they moved to Nebraska, where they entered 160 acres of land. The country was new and unsettled, the closest market was at Beatrice, Neb., a distance of eighty miles from Mr. Brook's home, and the nearest blacksmith shop was nine miles away. When they landed in this county, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks were the possessors of three cents, all the money they had in the world, and while Mr. Brooks broke the virgin soil, his wife planted the corn. The trials and vicissitudes which they experienced can hardly be imagined. They have witnessed the gradual growth of the country from its primitive condition to its present state of prosperity and have been identified with its interests in every worthy particular. He is a staunch Republican, casting his first presidential vote for the honored and lamented Abraham Lincoln during the first administration, and was present in Illinois when Lincoln and Douglas held their great debates. He also heard Lincoln plead in the courts of Illinois. Mr. Brooks is recognized as the leading citizen and stalwart of his precinct, and holds the high and very responsible position of commissioner of the county of Nuckolls, having entire control of the northeastern part of the county. This position is one of the most important and difficult to satisfactorily fill in the county. All the officers are to be governed by the commissioners, all settlements, all accounts, contracts, all public buildings, the quarters for the county court and all places of lodgment for paupers and prisoners is to be the work of the commissioners of the county. The present board of commissioners of Nuckolls County have

exclusive charge of the erection of the large and commodious court-house, costing when completed, \$35,000. Mr. Brooks has held this important position for five years. He has, indeed, been identified with his own precinct's interests at all times, and has taken an exalted stand for education and religion. He and Mrs. Brooks are devout members of the Evangelical Church, and Mr. Brooks has been class leader for twelve years. They have helped build up the Sunday-school, and are at the head of all good religious work. Mr. Brooks has held the office of treasurer for eight years in the schools, and has decided opinions in regard to good and competent instructors being employed. He is a member of the George H. Thomas Post No. 15, at Nelson, Neb., is also a member of the Alliance, and his opinion is, that if they hold together and not mix with politics, they will accomplish much good. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks expect to make their future home in Nebraska, where they have many warm friends and admirers, and where they have accumulated a neat competency for the remainder of their lives. They came to this State with little or nothing, and now they are possessed of means which place them in easy and comfortable circumstances. They are noted for their kind acts, and generous donations to churches, etc., and are held in the highest esteem by their friends for their sound Christian principles and sterling integrity and worth.

John Bruce, of Beaver Township, Nuckolls County, is entitled to that representation in any worthy history of the community, which is due industry, prudence and a lifetime of earnest effort intelligently applied. To the historian of the present, so accustomed to refer to the career of men in the ordinary walks of life, it is a pleasure to speak of one modest and unassuming in manner, yet possessing, to a marked degree, those qualities and characteristics which, without doubt, demonstrate him to be above the average in honorable business ability and sagacity, and of unusual enterprise and progressive spirit. John Bruce was born in Canada March 4, 1841, and is, therefore, just in the prime of life. His father was James Bruce, and his mother, like her husband, a native of Vermont,

was, before her marriage, Miss Lucinda Sweatt. Early in their married life the young couple moved to Canada, with the expectation of making that country their permanent home, but existing circumstances necessitated a change from this purpose, and before a great while had elapsed they again became citizens of the United States, making a settlement in Wauzara County, Wis. There the husband and father (for during this time seven children had gladdened the happy home) continued to reside for thirty-one years, passing away after an active, busy life, on August 21, 1877. His loving companion survived this separation until March 18, 1881, when she, too, was called to her final home. Mr. Bruce, in his political preferences, was a Democrat until the outbreak of the war, but at this time his views and tendencies underwent a change, and afterward until his death he was found warmly supporting Republican principles. Their seven children were five sons: John, David, Arthur, Augustus and Wallace, and two daughters: Hester and Freelove, three of whom are deceased. Hester and David died at home, and Augustus died in the army, and his body was brought home and laid to rest. While his parents were living in Canada, John Bruce made his appearance in the world, the routine of every-day life having but little attractions for him until the family had become located in Wisconsin. There he familiarized himself with the duties nearest home, passing the days of his boyhood and early youth uneventfully, until the call to arms aroused his patriotism. Early in the strife, in 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteers, and almost at once was made to serve on detached duty, in which capacity he remained until the close of the war, serving with Sherman on his memorable march to the sea, and taking part in the grand review at Washington. This experience in the life of Mr. Bruce is by no means an unimportant feature of his honorable career. Upon receiving his discharge he turned his face toward the old home in Wisconsin, and continued to be occupied there until 1868, when he moved to Missouri for what was destined to be a two-years' stay. In 1870 he entered Kansas, at a time when, so new was the

country, buffalo, deer and wild animals of almost all descriptions roamed the prairies in undisputed freedom; and it was a source of no little enjoyment to indulge in frequent hunting expeditions. Four years later he manifested good judgment and foresight by coming to Nuckolls County, Neb., where his successful and upright course has since contributed to render him well and favorably known. The excellent homestead of 160 acres upon which he resides is well improved, and in addition to agricultural pursuits in general, he is devoting considerable attention to raising and feeding stock. Other interests besides those mentioned have occupied him to some extent, he having been one of five to organize the Farmers' Bank & Loan Company at Superior, where his shrewd mind and keen business ability were called into active play. In 1869 Mr. Bruce was married to Miss Sarah Millmore, in Wisconsin, though she was originally from Canada. After a happy wedded life, Mrs. Bruce died, leaving four small children, three of whom, Frank, Augustus and Cora, still survive, but the eldest, Ettie, died in the fall of 1885. June 24, 1882, Mr. Bruce took for his second wife Miss Zilphia A. Bruce, an estimable lady, daughter of Nathaniel Bruce. Two bright, interesting children have blessed their union: Ava and Hazel. Mr. Bruce is a Republican, politically, and has shown his social disposition by uniting with the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W. and the G. A. R., belonging to Abe Lincoln Post No. 63, of this latter organization. He and his family enjoy the unbounded respect of all who are favored with their acquaintance.

Arthur Bryan, one of the most successful agriculturists and stockmen of this section, was born in Jones County, Iowa, September 27, 1851. His father, John Bryan, was born and raised in Ohio, and was there married to Miss Rosanna Walston, also an Ohioan by birth, and the daughter of Lebanon Walston. In 1850 Mr. Bryan moved to Jones County, Iowa, being among the early settlers of that country, took up land and made a good home there, which he afterward sold, and then moved to Greene County. Here he made a good farm, on which he resided until his death, in 1883,

leaving a widow, who now makes her home in Ohio. Arthur Bryan is the second son and the third in order of birth of a family of five children, all of whom are still living, and heads of families. He grew to manhood in his native county, receiving a good common-school education. He left his home in 1872, at the age of twenty-one, to start in life on his own account, and on November 21, 1872, he was united in marriage to Abigail D. Williams, daughter of William Williams, of Cedar County, Iowa, in which county she was born, reared and received her education. For a few years after his marriage Mr. Bryan farmed in Iowa, and then, in 1879, he sold out and moved to Nebraska, purchasing the land on which he now lives. He owns 160 acres of good land, all of which he has fenced and cross-fenced into pasture, meadow and plow land, and on this have been erected a good residence, with basement, a good barn, neat and substantial out-buildings, etc. Since coming to Nebraska Mr. Bryan has made a business of feeding and shipping a bunch of cattle and hogs each year; this year he is feeding over 100 steers and about 120 hogs. Mr. Bryan is a veterinary surgeon, and devotes considerable time to this business, and is usually very successful. He also practiced in Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan are the parents of four children, but two of whom—Ernest and Arthur—are now living; Blanche died in Jones County, Iowa, in the fall of 1879, in her fifth year, and the other child died in infancy.

J. M. Campbell is a successful real estate dealer of Nelson, Neb., and is a member of the law firm of Campbell & Sutherland. He was born in Monroe County, Ind., in 1845, and until seventeen years of age made his native State his home, removing at that time to Iowa, where he, in 1863, joined the Thirty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, serving until July, 1865, when he was discharged at Louisville, Ky. He was in the engagements at Snake Creek Gap, Kingston, Altoona Pass, besides some severe skirmishes, and the most of this time served as orderly. After the war Mr. Campbell located in Clark County, Iowa, but in 1871 came to the State of Nebraska, to found a home for himself and family. He took up a soldier's homestead, which he im-

proved, and lived on for fourteen years, then sold his farm and moved to Nelson, where he embarked in the real estate and loan business, which has for years been in a very prosperous condition. He is the agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and is the owner of 160 acres of fine land adjoining Nelson. Mr. Campbell is doing a solid and conservative business, and buys and sells all manner of property, improved and unimproved, and commands the confidence of the public in a marked degree. He is a Republican in his political views, and has served as commissioner of Nuckolls County one term. He belongs to the G. A. R., holding membership in the lodge at Edgar, Neb., and he is also a staunch member of the K. of P., and is a prominent member of the Nuckolls County Improvement Association. He was married in Clark County, Iowa, to Miss Alice Farley, but he was called upon to mourn her death in 1888. He has since wedded Miss Ella McCracken, by whom he has one son, Paul. His first wife bore him four children: Clarence, William (deceased), Fannie and Eva. Mr. Campbell is a son of J. M. and Elizabeth (Burton) Campbell, who were born in Kentucky and Indiana, respectively. The father removed to Indiana, thence to Iowa, where he died. They had two children, the other son being John, now judge of the district court at Colorado Springs.

A. Chenoweth, farmer and stock raiser, living on Section 22, Town 3, Range 6, Blaine Township. Mr. Chenoweth has been identified with the agricultural affairs of Nuckolls County since 1872, at which time he came to this county and took up a homestead of eighty acres of land about five miles east of where he now lives. This land he improved and three years afterward sold it, and then purchased 160 acres of fine land on the South Fork of the Elk Creek, which he has since converted into a good, well-improved farm, on which he is now living. He came to Nebraska in the early days of its history, and has thus witnessed the complete development of the county, and expects to spend the remainder of his days here. He came originally from Illinois, having opened his eyes to this world in Logan County, that State, in January, 1849. His parents, Noah and

Eliza A. (Wiley) Chenoweth, both of whom were born in Ohio, had a family of eight children, our subject being the seventh in order of birth. His father grew to manhood in the "Buckeye State," later engaging in farming in Illinois, where he died in 1871. The mother is still living and makes her home with our subject. A. Chenoweth attended the common schools of his native State until he had reached his nineteenth year, when he began life for himself as a farmer in Illinois, continuing there in that occupation until 1872, when he came to Nebraska, where he has been very successful, and is now numbered among the substantial farmers of this county. In politics Mr. Chenoweth is a staunch Republican. He is a member and junior warden of Blue Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., and belongs to Edgar Chapter, R. A. M., also the Farmers' Alliance, and the Eastern Star, Nelson, Neb.

Addison C. Churchill, the subject of this sketch, was born July 2, 1850, to Samuel C. and Sophia (Gunn) Churchill, who were born, the father in Oneida, and the mother in Chenango County, N. Y., and each was reared to mature years in the State of their birth. After their marriage they removed to the Keystone State, and later located in Fayette County, Iowa, where, in 1883, the mother died. Mr. Churchill is one of four living children, the eldest of whom is B. F., now a resident of Nuckolls County, a farmer and stockman. The second is Mrs. Emily Woods, now residing in Fayette, Iowa. The third is A. C., and the fourth is Mrs. Mary Montgomery, whose husband, Edwin S. Montgomery, died in Fayette, Iowa, in 1885. This sister Mary and her little daughter, Oasis, keep the house and make a home for the subject of this sketch, he, unfortunately, being a bachelor. Mr. Churchill graduated in the scientific course, from the Upper Iowa University, in 1876, and for the two years following taught in the public schools of Iowa. He moved to Nuckolls County, Neb., in the spring of 1878, and settled in Elk Precinct, near the Little Blue River, where he lived till 1882, when he moved to his present home in Hardy Precinct. He is now the owner of 480 acres of as good land as there is in the county and his land

is well improved in many ways, a large grove and promising orchard being noticeable features. He also holds under lease 1,120 acres of Scully land adjoining his farm, part of which is under cultivation but mostly in fenced pasture. This fine farm is dotted with tenent houses, in which families live who till the 650 acres of cultivated ground. Mr. Churchill besides being one of the foremost farmers of this section of the country is also an extensive stockman, and on his place may be seen, at any time, from 200 to 500 head of cattle. At the time of this writing 180 fine fat beeves and 200 or 300 fat hogs lounge about his feed lots, too comfortable to do more than grunt their satisfaction. Mr. Churchill is a wide-awake and enterprising gentleman, as most native New Yorkers are, and since his advent in this county has become widely known as an honorable business man, as well as a social and agreeable gentleman. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance of Nebraska No. 921, and since coming to the State has done his full share in promoting every interest of the county.

Judge Thomas P. Coin, an old and honored citizen of Superior, Neb., and ex-judge and ex-school superintendent of Nuckolls County, owes his nativity to Indiana, his birth occurring in Carroll County, September 10, 1835. His parents, John W. and Charlotte (Mundy) Coin, were natives of Botetourt County, Va., and both were graduates of the Virginia University. They settled in Carroll County, Ind., in 1833, and became the parents of twelve children, eight of whom were sons, but only two of whom are now living. The mother died January 25, 1844, and the father received his final summons August 9, 1849. Judge Thomas P. Coin was but eight years of age when his mother died, and but thirteen when he was left fatherless. At ten years of age he accompanied his father to Cass County, Ind., and after the death of the latter made his home with an uncle, in the latter county, until twenty-one years of age. At the age of fourteen he entered a seminary at Camden, Ind., and at the early age of sixteen he took up the vocation of a teacher. From that time until he was twenty he taught school and attended the Camden Seminary alternately, completing the

full course in that institution. In the fall of 1856 he came westward to Wapello, Iowa, and for one year had charge of the schools at Blakesburg, of that county. While there, April 9, 1857, he was married to Miss Rebecca Johnston, the daughter of John and Miriam (Tennis) Johnston, of Blakesburg, and sister of Allen Johnston, of Ottumwa, Iowa, who is known throughout the world as the inventor of the ruffling attachment for sewing machines. Soon after his marriage, Judge Coin removed to Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, where he was principal of the schools for one year, and at the same time studied law with Capt. James Baker. After his school closed he continued his law studies, and in 1859 was admitted to the bar, at Osceola, Iowa. He then entered upon the practice of law at Chariton. In 1861 he entered the service of the Union army, as quartermaster, with Gen. Edwards' Independent Iowa Regiment, and continued in the same capacity until the regiment disbanded, in the following fall. In the spring of 1862 he entered the regular service, in Company K, Thirty-fourth Iowa Regiment, and participated in Sherman's defeat at Vicksburg, also the battle of Arkansas. In the spring of 1863 he received an honorable discharge, after which he returned to his home in Chariton. In 1864 he removed to Boone County, Iowa, and there resumed the profession of a teacher, to which his natural tastes drew him. He resided in that county until 1879, and devoted his attention to teaching during the whole time, with the exception of four years, from January, 1872, until January, 1876, during which time he served as county superintendent of Boone County. In 1879 he removed to Nebraska, and located at Superior, where he resumed the practice of law. At this he continued until 1884, when he resigned his practice to take charge of the office of county judge, to which position he had been elected in the fall of 1883. He served one term of two years. During his term of office as judge and superintendent, he resided at Nelson, Neb., and while there his wife died, February 21, 1887. On November 6, 1887, he was married to Mrs. Gertrude Livingston, of Nelson, Neb. She was born at Martinsville, Ind., and was the daughter of Stephen

and Miranda (Crain) McCracken, who were natives of North Carolina and Ohio, respectively. By profession she is a musician, for which she possesses much natural ability, and for twelve years has been an instructor of music. She is a graduate of the Indianapolis Conservatory of Music. In 1888 Judge Coin returned to Superior, and he and wife have since occupied a very neat home in the northern part of the city. At present the Judge is a member of the faculty of the city schools, being principal of the North Ward School. By his first marriage Judge Coin became the father of seven children: Clara, Clement C., Laura, Ina, Minnie, Orin and Gene, of whom Clement C. is deceased. To his last marriage has been born one child, Park M., whose birth occurred August 10, 1888. Judge Coin and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are active workers in the same. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and is president of the Supreme Lodge of the Order of Delphians, of which order he is the author and originator. In politics he is a Republican. To the present wife of Judge Coin is due the credit for having set on foot the movement which led to the establishment of the Superior Conservatory, which promises to become one of the leading educational institutions of the city, and of which she is one of the principal instructors.

T. W. Cole has been a law practitioner of Nelson, Neb., since 1888, and since October of that year he has also been connected with the Gazette, one of the best and newsiest journals of the State. Mr. Cole's mother State is Wisconsin, where he was born in 1859, and where he was reared to manhood and educated. He first attended the school in Washington County, but later finished his literary education in the high school at West Bend, and also at the Chicago high schools. In his desire to become a lawyer, he had always been enthusiastic, and in process of time he began his legal studies in the capital of his native State, but was first admitted to the bar in Washington County. He afterward practiced seven years in Colby, Clark County, Wis. Then, as above stated, he made a change of base to Nebraska, and in Nuckolls County he has become a leading light among

his legal brethren. He is a young man of excellent parts, and his energies are bent toward making a success of his present calling, his efforts giving every promise of succeeding. While still a resident of West Bend, Wis., his marriage to Miss Angie Warren was celebrated, and one child has blessed their union—Vivian. Mr. Cole's parents, Gregory and Catherine (Cole) Cole, were born in England and Brooklyn, N. Y., respectively, and were second cousins. The father is still living, a worthy tiller of the soil, but the mother has been deceased for some years. They reared a family of ten children.

Lewis Coles, farmer and stock-raiser, Nora, Neb. Mr. Coles, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of this county, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1853, and was the seventh of nine children, the result of the union of Benjamin and Sarah (Matson) Coles, natives also of the Buckeye State. The father was a blacksmith and gunsmith by trade, and continued this in the State of Ohio until 1855, when he moved to Warren County, Iowa. There he settled on a farm and engaged in milling, following this occupation for about ten years, until in May, 1880, when he settled in Superior and engaged in gunsmithing. In 1888 he moved to Nora, and there his death occurred on April 18, 1890. The mother now resides with her children, those living being named as follows: Ellen (now Mrs. Hall, of Warren County, Iowa, on the homestead), Polly (now Mrs. Garbison, of Warren County, Iowa), J. F. (married and resides in Oak Township), Rachel L. (now Mrs. Dunn, of Franklin County, Neb.), Lewis, E. J. (married and resides in Nora Township), S. P. (married and resides in this township). Lewis Coles was reared to farm life, was favored with such educational advantages as the district schools afforded, and later learned the blacksmith's trade, which he has followed much of the time since coming to Nebraska. Mr. Coles was married in Warren County, Iowa, in 1874, to Miss Maria C. McKinney, a native of West Virginia, and the daughter of W. H. and Mary (Taylor) McKinney, natives of the Old Dominion also. Mr. Coles came to this State in 1879, and is the owner of 108 acres of good land. The town site

was located on Mr. Coles' land, and the town company purchased fifty-seven acres of his eighty acres on Section 10. He takes an active interest in politics, and votes with the Republican party. He and wife and oldest daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Nora. Their union has been blessed by the birth of six children: Nancy, Adaline, Annie Bell, Winnie Myrtle, Harry Olan, Amy Maria and Raymon L. When he first settled in this State, Mr. Coles' nearest market, Edgar, was sixteen miles distant, but he now has a good market on his farm, and everything is convenient and handy.

Mrs. Sarah J. Coppock, Section 28, Beaver Township, Nuckolls County. In 1873, when immigration first commenced to set in to Nebraska, there came to this county from Ohio a family consisting of a man and wife and three children. They came with the expectation of subduing the rough prairie, and making a comfortable home, and how well they succeeded shall be told later. The country at that time was entirely new; the prairies abounded with antelope, wolves and other wild game; only seven school children, including the three mentioned in the beginning of the sketch, could be found. This pioneer family comprised Mr. and Mrs. Coppock and their three children. Mr. Coppock was a very active and enterprising man, ambitious to make a good comfortable home in which to rear his children and pass the remainder of his days with the loving companion of his joys and sorrows. He took up 160 acres of good land on the Republican River, about two miles from Superior, and his hopes were just beginning to be realized when in 1882 death removed him, leaving his widow and children to fight life's battles alone, in a strange country, as yet but thinly inhabited. A great many people in Mrs. Coppock's place would have become discouraged, but possessing an unusual amount of determination as well as business tact and ability, she set to work alone to carry out her husband's plans. She assumed entire charge of the farm, and she conducted it successfully. Within the last year she has erected a large two-story residence and a good barn, and has otherwise improved the place. Beautified by evergreens, shrubbery, roses

and flowers of every description, her home is one of the most beautiful and desirable in the township, while an orchard of some 200 apple trees, besides a quantity of small fruit, waving fields of grain, well filled cribs and cattle sheds, etc., give the place a look of thrift and prosperity rarely exceeded. She was married to Mr. Coppock in Ohio, in 1862, and their wedded life resulted in the birth of five children: Charles, Ida (now Mrs. Frank Warton), Frank, Edwin and Grace. Her maiden name was Miss Sarah Jane Enyeart, and she was a daughter of John and Lydia Enyeart, both of whom were born and spent their lives in Ohio. Mr. Coppock was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1834, and was a son of Jesse and Annie E. (Cathern) Coppock, who reared a family of ten children, all but one of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Coppock is a consistent member of the Christian Church. She is a modest, unassuming lady, and has won the confidence and respect of the entire community.

B. F. Corman, farmer and stock-raiser, Nelson, Neb. The name that heads this sketch is that of one of the well-known residents of Nora Precinct, who, like many other settlers in the county, came originally from the Keystone State, where his birth occurred, in Centre County, in 1845. His parents, Mikel and Susan (Fry) Corman, natives also of Pennsylvania, were married in that State and to them were born the following children: B. F., William (married and resides in Pennsylvania), Mikel (married and resides in Pennsylvania), John (married and resides in Nuckolls County), Sarah (now Mrs. Zigler, of Elk Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb.), Elias (married, in Pennsylvania), Nathan (married and resides in Pennsylvania), and Emanuel (resides in Pennsylvania). The father of these children now resides in Pennsylvania, but the mother was called to her long home in 1875. B. F. Corman, was reared on a farm in Pennsylvania, received his education in the schools of that State, and at the age of twenty-one years he engaged in the carpenter trade, which he followed for about thirteen years. He was married in Centre County, Pa., in 1873, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Beck, a native also of Centre County, Pa., and the daughter of W. W. and

Nancy (Wilson) Beck, pioneers of Pennsylvania. Mr. Beck died in 1882 and his wife in 1887. After his marriage Mr. Corman worked at his trade and also carried on farming two years. In 1877 he left the State of his nativity, came to Nebraska, and in 1882 settled on his present farm. He owns 240 acres of land and has it all in a good state of cultivation. He has a good residence and substantial out-buildings, etc. He raises the best grade of stock and has some fine animals on his excellent farm. He takes considerable interest in politics and votes with the Democratic party; is also interested in school matters, and assisted in organizing the school district. Socially he is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. Mrs. Corman is a member of the Presbyterian Church. To their marriage have been born seven children, six now living: Charles Wesley, Harry Wilson, B. F., Arthur, Eather Grace and Grover. Mr. Corman has seen many changes since coming to this country, and has been active in assisting in the development of the same. The principal part of his property is the result of his own exertions and hard work.

Hon. George F. Cotton, a prominent brick manufacturer of Superior, Neb., and ex-mayor of that city, was originally from Cortland, N. Y., where his birth occurred on June 6, 1846, and is the son of Lorenzo and Mary L. (Robbins) Cotton, the former a native of Litchfield, Conn., born about 1809, and the latter of Smithville, N. Y., born about 1812. The paternal grandparents, James and Lucinda Cotton, were natives of England, but were married in the State of Connecticut. Both died in Cortland County, N. Y., in 1863 and 1867, respectively, and when each were over ninety years of age. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Joseph and Mary Robbins, were also natives of England, but were married in this country. They too, settled in Cortland County, N. Y., and there passed their last days, the former dying in 1861, and the latter in 1859. Lorenzo and Mary L. (Robbins) Cotton were married December 20, 1832, and became the parents of seven children, of whom Hon. George F. was the youngest. Of this family four sons and one daughter are now living. The

father of these children died January 12, 1852, and his wife survived him until April 29, 1867. Both received their final summons in Cortland County, N. Y. Hon. George F. Cotton passed his boyhood days in his native town of Cortland, and attended the public schools until fifteen years of age, after which he entered the Academy at Cincinnati, N. Y., remaining there until seventeen years of age. He then came west to Manchester, Iowa, remained there for five years clerking in a drug store for some time, and from 1871 to 1873 was engaged in the manufacture of brick at Clark City, Mo. He was married at that place on November 29, 1873, to Miss Mary A. Cullens, a native of Jo Daviess County, Ill., born February 18, 1852, and the daughter of Abram and Mary B. (Clay) Cullens, who were natives, respectively, of Ohio. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cotton located in La Harpe, Ill., where the former was engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile until 1879. In that year he removed to Bushnell, Ill., where for three years he was occupied in the manufacture of pressed brick, sewer pipe and draining tile. In 1881 he located in Prairie City, Ill., and established large tile works. One year later he removed to Bowensburg, Ill., where he established a \$40,000 tile works, and this conducted until the spring of 1884, when he came to Nebraska. He located at Superior, and here he has been extensively engaged in the manufacture of brick. Mr. and Mrs. Cotton have had a family of six children: Guy W., George A., Nellie, Mary, Ralph and Fred. Mary died at the age of two years. Mr. Cotton is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has attained the degree of Knight Templar, and he also is a member of the I. O. O. F., and the A. O. U. W. Politically he is a Prohibitionist, and takes a lively interest in his party's affairs, and is in hearty sympathy with every movement that has for its object the promotion of the cause of temperance. While a resident of La Harpe, Ill., he was three times elected to the town council. He also, during his residence there, was once a candidate for the State Legislature, and though he had a majority of about 1,500 against him, he lacked but sixty-two votes of being elected. In 1885 he was appointed

a member of the school board of Superior, and he has served in that capacity ever since, having been elected in 1887 and again in 1890, overcoming in the former year a large opposing majority. He is now president of the board. In the spring of 1886 he was elected a member of the town board and served one term, being its president. In the spring of 1889 he was elected a member of the city council, and of it he has since been president. From August, 1889, until May, 1890, he served as mayor of the city, the former mayor having resigned. Mr. Cotton is a pleasant, agreeable gentleman, and socially is very popular. He and wife worship at the Methodist Episcopal Church.

William J. Crawford. In enumerating the enterprising and progressive agriculturists and stockmen of Nuckolls County, Mr. Crawford must not be overlooked, for he is in every respect a self-made man, and has slowly but surely climbed the ladder of success until he is now acknowledged to be one of the leading men of the community. He was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., November 14, 1850. His father, Daniel Crawford, was born and reared in Ireland, and when a young man of eighteen years emigrated to America and settled in Pittsburgh, subsequently marrying Miss Esther Sterrett, a native of Pennsylvania. Although our subject is a Pennsylvanian by birth, he knows very little about his native State, as his parents moved to Des Moines County, Iowa, when he was five years of age. His father is still living at the advanced age of seventy-six years, and resides on the same farm on which he first located on coming to Iowa. The mother died in 1860, and her husband afterward married again. The immediate subject of this sketch was reared to farm labor, and upon reaching his majority and starting life on his own account, it was but natural that he should choose farming as his occupation through life. Accordingly he rented a farm, which he cultivated for a number of years. In 1881 he purchased 160 acres of land, and in 1885 brought his family to Nuckolls County and took possession. He has this land nearly all under cultivation, and about eighty acres fenced. Mr. Crawford has erected a good comfortable residence and out-buildings, has planted

an orchard of 120 apple and cherry trees, and made numerous other improvements. He devotes his time exclusively to farming and stock-raising, and all his surroundings indicate thrift and prosperity. He raises good grade stock, both horses, cattle and hogs, making a specialty of the Poland China breed of hogs. Mr. Crawford was married in Des Moines County, Iowa, February 22, 1877, to Miss Hannah McKeown, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Henry and Rebecca McKeown. Their married life was blessed in the birth of four children: Emma Z., Walter, Claudius and Celia. Mr. Crawford is a deacon in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, of which both he and wife are members. He has been quite successful in farming and stock-raising. He is this year cultivating 110 acres of land, fifty acres of which he has sowed to grain, and sixty acres planted to corn. Mr. Crawford takes great pride in the fact that all his property has been accumulated by his own exertions and business management.

Rufus Culp, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. Prominent among the leading agriculturists and stock-raisers of Nuckolls County stands the name of Mr. Culp, who is also much esteemed and respected as one of its first-class citizens. He was born in the Buckeye State, February 17, 1832, and was one of fourteen children, eight now living, born to his parents. Those living are named as follows: Andrew Jackson (farmer of Pike County, Ohio, married Miss Eliza Gordon), Josiah (married Miss Sarah Gibbons, a native of Ohio, who died in 1860, and he then married Mrs. Sarah Caudy, also a native of Ohio), Betsey (married John Hays, a native of Pennsylvania, and a farmer by occupation), Maria (married Frederick Janvine, a native of Germany, and a farmer by occupation), Ruth (married Jacob Kelley, a native of Ohio, and also a farmer), Nancy (married Adam Steele, a native of Ohio, and a farmer) and Mary (married Peter James, a native also of Ohio, and a farmer). The father of these children was a native of the Keystone State, and died in 1858. He served through the entire War of 1812. The mother was born in Ohio, and at the time of her death was ninety years of age. Rufus Culp was reared to farm life in the

State of Ohio until 1865, when he emigrated to Brookville, Ind., and there tilled the soil for two years. From there he moved to Logan County, Ill., and in 1870 came direct to his present home in Nuckolls County, where he homesteaded, by citizen's claim, 160 acres of land. Indians were numerous at that time, and wild animals abounded. The nearest market was at Beatrice, a distance of eighty miles from his home, and for miles the eye saw nothing but prairie land. Mr. Culp married Miss Sarah Grow, a native of Ohio, October 5, 1856, in Jackson, Jackson County, Ohio, and twelve children have been the result of this union, four now living: Aaron (single, resides on the old homestead, and is a tiller of the soil), George (a farmer by occupation, married Miss Mary Reed, a native of Illinois), Chloe (at home, attending school) and Ralph (who is now ten years of age). Mr. Culp has always identified himself with the Democratic party in national affairs, but is liberal in his views regarding good, honest men for county and precinct officers. He takes a decided interest in the educational matters of his district, and has held the position of moderator in the same for three years. He is an active member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is a supporter of good, moral institutions. Mrs. Culp is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Culp is a horse fancier in the highest sense of the word. He is the owner of "Jumbo," a genuine English draft stallion, valued at \$1,500, and weighing 2,000 pounds. Jumbo is seven years old, stands about sixteen and a half hands high, and is a beautiful dapple bay in color. Mr. Culp also owns a full blooded imported Clydesdale, "Drayman" by name, valued at \$1,500, weighing 1,500 pounds, about sixteen hands high, and also a beautiful dappled bay in color. Mr. Culp is to be commended for the enterprise and interest he takes in introducing fine blooded stock into the county. He also raises Poland China hogs, and has been very successful in the stock-raising business.

Albert H. Curry, farmer and stock-raiser, Nora, Neb. Mr. Curry was originally from Scott County, Iowa, where his birth occurred on February 19, 1856, and was one of the following children born

to his parents: William H. (died at the age of sixteen years), Mary J. (is a music teacher by profession, and resides in Nelson, Neb.), Albicena M. (died at the age of nineteen years), Albert H., Triphena T. (resides in Davenport, Iowa, and is a school teacher by profession; is first assistant in one of the high schools of the city, and has held that position for ten years), Morton M. (married Miss Laura B. Richardson, a native of Iowa, and now resides in Chicago, and is very successfully engaged as a carpet merchant). The father of these children was born in the Buckeye State about 1811, and was a school teacher by profession, having followed the same for fifteen years. He is living and is seventy-nine years of age. The mother was born in Pennsylvania about 1825, was well educated and taught school for about twenty-five years. She died in the winter of 1888. The mother of Mr. Curry held a teacher's State certificate and occupied a position of honor and trust in Davenport, Iowa, for about twenty years. Albert H. Curry received a limited education in the common district schools in Scott County, Iowa, and on that account perhaps, if no other, is an ardent supporter of all educational matters. He was treasurer of the home district for six consecutive years. He commenced life for himself at the age of twenty years, and having been early trained in the duties of farm life, understands the farmer's position in all its different phases. His marriage occurred in Nuckolls County, Neb., on March 20, 1881, to Miss Nellie Y. Fletcher, a native of Iowa, born June 21, 1861, and four children are the result of this union: Fannie F., Albert W., Gracie M. and Harvey H. Mr. Curry has always identified himself with the Republican party, and cast his first presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes. He is an active member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is firm in the belief that if the farming element will cling together in a body the greatest good will be accomplished. He purchased 160 acres of raw land in the summer of 1876, and he now has the most of it under cultivation and good substantial buildings on the same. This he has accomplished by honest toil, frugality and integrity, which place him upon a high plane in the esti-

mation of his fellow men. Mr. and Mrs. Curry expect to make Nebraska their home for the future, and have accumulated a competency which will render them comfortable and happy.

William L. Cutler, farmer and stock-raiser, Oak, Neb. Mr. Cutler resides on the east half of Section 19, Hammond Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., and is a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring in February, 1837. His father was born in New York State in 1801, and farming was his principal occupation. The latter married Miss Lois Hopkins, a native also of New York, of German descent, and whose father was in the Revolutionary War. To this union were born ten children: Daniel (deceased), Lucy (widow and resides in Indiana), Lazarus (married Miss Mary Champlin, of Indiana, and is now engaged in farming and stock-raising in Iowa), Margaret (deceased), Charles (married Miss Sarah Champlin, and is now engaged in farming and the carpenter trade in Missouri), William L., John (was killed at the battle of Chickamauga), Edgar (married Miss Lucy Champlin, and is now tilling the soil in Kansas), Elizabeth Adelia (deceased) and James (residing in Custer, Neb., engaged in the carpenter trade, but by occupation a farmer). Mr. William L. Cutler received only a limited education in the old subscription schools of Indiana and New York, but he is a firm supporter of all good educational institutions. He commenced life for himself at the age of fourteen years and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He emigrated from New York to Indiana in 1847, and remained there until 1861, when he moved to Putnam County of that State. He wedded Mrs. Mary Jane Hughes, a native of New York, and on September 27, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered into service for three years at Ottawa, Ill. His regiment was engaged in the following battles: Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and was guard of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, until after the capture of Vicksburg, Miss. His regiment was then ordered to go to Vicksburg and there remained on guard duty, holding the rebels in check for some time. From there the regiment went to Natchez, and there re-

mained one year. Mr. Cutler was honorably discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., in the fall of 1864, and returned home. Three months later he returned to Memphis, Tenn., and was placed in the quartermaster department, where he remained during the winter, later going home. Mr. Cutler has always been identified with the old Republican party, in fact, he votes the way he shot. His first presidential vote was cast for Stephen A. Douglas. Mr. Cutler is interested in school matters and has been moderator for four consecutive years. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He is one of the pioneers of Hammond Precinct, and indeed one of the very earliest settlers, having emigrated here from Putnam County, Ill., in the spring of 1870. He entered 160 acres of land and has purchased 160 acres more. When he first came to this precinct there was not a furrow of ground turned, nor a house of any kind. He now has 320 acres of land, has 175 acres under cultivation and has two good residences on his property. He is quite an extensive stock-raiser and expects to make stock-raising a specialty.

J. A. Devore is a gentleman whose name is indelibly associated with the welfare and standing of Nelson, Neb., and for some time past his occupation has been that of a money broker. His birth occurred in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1848, his parents being E. H. and Rebecca (Haver) Devore, the former a Virginian of English and German extraction, and the latter born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch parents. J. A. Devore is one of their six children, and spent his youth and early manhood in Defiance County, Ohio, where his advantages for acquiring an education were excellent. He, unlike many youths of that and the present day, made good use of his time, applied himself closely to his books, and as a result became an intelligent and well-posted young man. At the age of twenty-two years he started out to carve a career for himself, came west to Nebraska, which State he reached on May 20, 1870, and having been familiar with farm life from his earliest youth, he entered a homestead claim in Saunders County, and in addition to farming also engaged in stock-

trading, these occupations receiving his attention for twelve years. In following this industry he was very successful, but after some time he decided that some other branch of trade would be more congenial to his tastes, and accordingly sold out and embarked in the hardware and implement business in Valparaiso, which calling he continued to follow for one year. He then began loaning money in that town, but on June 6, 1886, he came to Nelson, and after following money loaning for two and a half years he and C. P. Leigh organized the Nuckolls County State Bank, of which Mr. Devore was made president. He acted in this capacity until the State Bank of Nelson was consolidated with the First National Bank, it being called the First National Bank, and although Mr. Devore is vice-president of this bank, he also conducts an extensive loan business distinct from that institution. He is considered an excellent financier, and the money he loans is entirely his own. Thus, having no other party to consult, he can accommodate borrowers at lowest rates of interest to any amount, and take as security any kind of property or note. He gives much attention and thought to this business, is careful and exact in his transactions, and has the pleasantest relations with his patrons and the general public. He owns valuable property in Colorado besides what he owns here, is a man of unimpeachable honesty, and in every walk in life has commanded the respect and confidence of all. He served for about seven months in the late war, being a member of Company D, One Hundred and Eighty-ninth Ohio Infantry, and socially is at present a member of the A. F. & A. M., having attained the Royal Arch degree. He was married in Defiance, Ohio, to Miss Estelle J. Dellett, and both he and his worthy wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Samuel Doane, farmer and stock-raiser, Angus, Neb. Upon growing up Mr. Doane was instructed in all the details of farm life, but in connection also learned the carpenter and joiner's trade. He was born in Western New York in February, 1829, his parents being natives of the Empire State also. His father is deceased, but his mother is now living at the advanced age of eighty four years, and

resides in Michigan. Samuel Doane assisted on the home farm until twenty-one, and afterward engaged in the carpenter and joiner's trade. In 1875, emigrating from New York to Nuckolls County, Neb., he purchased 700 acres of land, and is now the owner of 540 acres, all improved, and is making a specialty of the stock business, raising, principally, Durham cattle and Poland-China and Berkshire hogs. He has made a signal success of the stock industry. Mr. Doane has been a resident of Sherman Precinct for fifteen years, and has witnessed the rapid development of the country from its primitive state to the rich, fertile locality of to-day. When he first settled here the district was sparsely settled, and he has seen hunting parties of the Omaha Indians pass near his farm. His marriage to Miss Catharine Sanford was consummated in July, 1853, and to them was born a daughter, now the wife of A. Warren. His first wife died in 1857, and his second marriage, to Miss Sylvia Beers, was consummated in December, 1859. Mr. Doane received his education in the old fashioned district schools, and since his residence in Nebraska has identified himself with the development of the country schools in his district, having held the office of treasurer two terms. He has always been found on the side of the Democratic party, and has ever supported the true Jeffersonian principles of Democracy, casting his first presidential vote for Zachary Taylor. Mr. Doane is now justice of the peace of Sherman Precinct, and has held the position for about ten years, and has always exercised that justice of decision which is one of the characteristics of this gentleman. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge of Edgar, Neb., and also an active member of the Farmers' Alliance, advocating the principles which it sets forth. Mrs. Doane is an active member of the Evangelical Church at Angus, Neb., and is connected with the Sunday-school, having been a teacher in the same for some time.

James E. Donahoo, farmer and stock-raiser, Nelson, Neb. Mr. Donahoo owes his nativity to Maryland, his birth occurring in Cecil County in May, 1826, and is the eldest in a family of fourteen children born to John and Elizabeth (Kirk) Dona-

hoo, natives also of Maryland. The father, who was a master mechanic, passed his entire life in his native State, his death occurring in 1879. The mother died in November, 1886, at Edgar, Neb. James E. Donahoo is a carpenter and joiner by trade, and erected the first frame school-house in Nuckolls County. He was educated in the schools of Maryland, and was married in his native county on January 3, 1856, to Miss Susan E. Thomas, a native also of Cecil County, Md., and the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Sergeant) Thomas, natives of Maryland and Delaware, respectively. Mr. Thomas was a farmer, and died in May, 1855. The mother received her final summons in July, 1860. Joseph Thomas was a soldier in the War of 1812, and his father was sergeant in the Revolution. After his marriage, Mr. Donahoo worked at his trade, and in 1865 moved to Johnson County, Ind., thence, in 1873, to Nuckolls County, Neb., where he has since made his home. He owns eighty acres of land, and a story-and-a-half frame house. He takes an active interest in politics, votes with the Democratic party, and manifests an active interest in all laudable enterprises. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife are members of the United Brethren Church. Their four children are named as follows: Ida E. (now Mrs. LaBounty, of Fairfield, Neb.), John L. (of Nuckolls County), William T. (in Colorado) and Carrie (now Mrs. Strode, at home).

E. L. Downing, a prominent pioneer settler of Nuckolls County, living on Section 34, Town 3, Range 6, Blaine Precinct, was born in Jefferson County, Iowa, in April, 1844, being the fourth child born to William and Sarah (Miller) Downing, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. His father spent his early life in Virginia, removing to Iowa in about 1840, and thence in 1852 to Los Angeles, Cal., where he is engaged in fruit raising. The mother died when our subject was about ten years of age. E. L. Downing spent his school days in Iowa, receiving an ordinary common-school education. He began life's struggle for himself at a very early age, by working by the month on a farm. This he continued until he joined the United States service, in December, 1863, enlisting

in Company M, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Capt. Fred. Whiting commander. During the service he participated in all the movements and engagements of his regiment, and was discharged at Davenport, Iowa, in August, 1865. At the close of the war he went to Illinois, where he worked by the month on a farm for about two years, and then returned to Iowa and engaged in farming for himself. In the spring of 1870, he came to this county and homesteaded 160 acres of land, to which he has added 320 acres, making him a good farm of 480 acres of good tillable land, all in the same section, and under a good state of cultivation. He has added other lands to his possessions from time to time, until at present he owns 1,440 acres, all in this county. He is one of the few remaining pioneer settlers of this county, who have seen the full development of the wild plains, over which roamed countless numbers of buffalo and other wild game, to the present high state of habitation. Mr. Downing participated in the organization of Nuckolls County, the meeting to organize being held on his premises, and he was elected county clerk, thus making him the first clerk of Nuckolls County. He has always been an active Republican, is a member of G. H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., and is vice-president of the Farmers' Alliance. In July, 1873, he was united in matrimonial bonds to Miss Mary Hewett, daughter of B. S. and Catherine (Snyder) Hewett, the former born in New York, and the latter in France. Their family now consists of one daughter, Eva, and an adopted son Edward. In December, 1888, Mrs. Downing died, and Eva now makes her home with her maternal grandmother in Fairfield, Neb. Mr. Downing has been very successful since coming to Nebraska, as his stock in trade after taking out his homestead papers was his team and \$4 in money. He has never failed to raise a good crop in the State.

John G. Dunken is the assessor of the town of Nelson, and also Nelson Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb. He was born in the "Hoosier State" in 1841, and grew to manhood in Richland County, Wis., whither he had moved with his parents, Daniel and Elizabeth Dunken. After attending the common schools and assisting his parents on the

home farm until he reached manhood, he began to work his own way in the world, and in 1866 was married. His arrival in Nuckolls County, Neb., dates from 1873, therefore he is one of its oldest settlers, and has witnessed its growth and development. He was in the State during the grasshopper period, and although he experienced some hard times, he continued to remain on his farm of eighty acres which he had first purchased. He has always been a Republican in politics, his first presidential vote being cast for Abraham Lincoln, and in 1880 he was elected to the position of township assessor, and was re-elected in the fall of 1889, a position he is now filling. On May 10, 1861, he joined the Federal army, becoming a member of Company H, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, and served until he received his discharge on July 15, 1865. He was with the Army of the Potomac throughout the Peninsular campaign, and was with Grant from the time he entered the Wilderness until the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appomattox Court House. He was at the grand review at Washington, D. C., and during his term of service was wounded four times; first, on December 13, 1862, in Burnside's crossing at Fredericksburg; then on May 6, 1864, May 12, 1864, and on August 21, 1864, in the Shenandoah Valley, under Sheridan, in the Sixth Army Corps. His marriage to Miss Susan Appleby, who was born in Lafayette County, Wis., has resulted in the birth of ten children (two of whom died in childhood): William (whose wife was formerly Maggie Harritt), Elizabeth (wife of William Harritt), Austin (deceased), Walter, James, Leroy, Arthur, Bertha (deceased), Clifford and Grace. The family are members of the United Brethren Church.

William Dysart, farmer, stock-raiser and dairyman, Superior, Neb. This prominent agriculturist, who from time to time has introduced new features of interest outside of the usual duties of the farm, was born in the Buckeye State, Belmont County, in 1842, and is the son of Boyd and Martha L. (Henderson) Dysart, natives also of Ohio, where the father died in 1848 at the age of thirty-two years. Boyd Dysart was a descendant of the Celtic race, and his genealogy is lost in the land of his nativity.

Mrs. Dysart was the daughter of Andrew and Jeanette (Nichols) Henderson, who were born in 1798 and 1801, respectively. In 1864 William Dysart enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Seventieth Ohio Volunteers, and served during this summer under Gen. Crook in the Eighth Corps. When his time had expired he returned to Wheeling, and in 1865 engaged in the oil business, which he continued for two years. In 1867 he engaged in merchandising, and the same year was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Twinem, a native of Monroe County, Ohio, who bore him seven children: Mary, Mattie, Thomas B., John T., Annie J., Edmund E. and Chrissie E. Mr. Dysart followed agricultural pursuits in Monroe County from this time until 1872, when he engaged in the cheese-making business in connection with farming, and continued the same until 1879. He then left that State, emigrated to Nebraska and located at Syracuse, where he remained a year and a half. He came to his present residence in February, 1881, located on Section 16, and is now the owner of the entire section of land. He is the only manufacturer of Swiss cheese in the State. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and family are members of the Presbyterian Church. He has given each of his children a good education, and his two eldest daughters are prominent school teachers in the county.

Alcinos Easton, farmer and stock-raiser, Davenport, Neb. There are a number of men prominently identified with the agricultural affairs of this county, but none among them are more deserving of mention than Mr. Alcinos Easton. This gentleman owes his nativity to Trumbull County, Ohio, where his birth occurred on July 25, 1837, and of the family of seven children born to his parents he was the fifth in order of birth. The father was born in Franklin County, Mass., on September 25, 1801, and was a local preacher the principal part of his life. He was also engaged in agricultural pursuits, and also followed the carpenter trade for some time. He died on November 1, 1880, and is interred in Mazon Cemetery, Grundy County, Ill. The mother was born in Oppenheim, N. Y., on January 5, 1811, and died Decem-

ber 7, 1843. She was interred in the Farmington Cemetery, in Trumbull County, Ohio. Alcinoas Easton obtained his early educational training in the common schools of Ohio, and started out to fight his way in life when but seventeen years of age. In 1855 he emigrated to Red Wing, Minn., with a drove of cattle, and remained there about eighteen months, engaged in lumbering. From there he went to LaCrosse County, Wis., in 1856, and was there occupied in tilling the soil. He was married on April 21, 1857, to Miss Mary Jane Doan, a native of Kirtland, Lake County, Ohio, born October 25, 1841. She was the elder of two children, and the only one now living, born to her parents. The other child, Adaline Cordelia, died at the age of eighteen years. Her father, Seth Doan, was a native of Ohio, and his avocation was farming. Her mother was born in New York. Mr. Easton is a very enthusiastic supporter of all educational work, has held the position of moderator in his district, and has secured good, competent instructors. He votes the Republican ticket, and has always been a prominent supporter of sound Republican principles, although at present he is an enthusiastic worker for the Prohibition party, which appears in the ascendancy in Nebraska. He is a strong supporter of all the cardinal views of the platform of this party. He cast his first presidential vote for the honored and lamented Abraham Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Easton are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having united with this denomination at Cataract Charge, LaCrosse County, Wis., in the spring of 1857, and have been actively engaged in Christian work ever since. Mr. Easton was licensed to preach at Gardner, Ill., in 1874, and has at all times been identified with church work, both locally and in revival work. He and wife report the work and society of the charge at Davenport to be most prosperous indeed, and the Sunday-school numbers about 200 members. In the fall of 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Easton emigrated from LaCrosse, Wis., to Keokuk County, Iowa, where Mr. Easton was engaged in teaching common-school successfully for three years. From there he moved to Grundy County, Ill., and there continued his

former pursuit. After making his third trip to Nebraska, he finally located in Nuckolls County, where he purchased 160 acres of raw land, without a vestige of any improvements whatever. He now has fine improvements upon this place. He has a family of bright, intelligent children, eleven in number: Eva (deceased), Hannah Addie (married Daniel B. Showalter, a native of Illinois, and a farmer by occupation, and is now residing in Nuckolls County, Neb.), Henry Monroe (married Miss Louisa Wagner, a native of Ford County, Ill., and now resides in Thayer County, Neb.; he is a farmer by occupation), Emery Alexander (deceased), Elmer Alcinoas (deceased), Fred W. (resides at the old homestead in Nuckolls County), Almon Walter (also at home), Howard Elbert, Minnie Emma, Effie Mabel and Ora Alcinoas. The children have all received good common school educations.

Philip Ebberd is another of the pioneers of Nuckolls County, having immigrated to Nebraska in 1871, and settled where he now lives, and like the other early settlers, has seen the entire growth and development of the country from an unbroken stretch of prairie, over which roamed countless herds of buffalo, deer, wolves and other wild animals, the only inhabitants of which were savages. He bought 320 acres of choice land on Liberty Creek, all of which is well improved with good buildings, a thrifty orchard, and a large amount of natural timber. He has been reasonably successful since coming here, and expects to pass the remainder of his days in his Nebraska home. He was born in Rockbridge County, Va., on October 10, 1819, being the fourth in a family of six children raised by Samuel and Catherine (Hepler) Ebberd, the former of whom, a farmer by occupation, was born in Maryland in 1790, and the latter in Virginia in 1786, and both of German parentage. The father served his country in the War of 1812. He was a very successful business man, and passed his life in Rockbridge County, Va., dying at that place in 1883. He died as he had lived, a worthy Christian gentleman, being a member of the Presbyterian Church. In politics he was Democratically inclined, and al

ways took a deep interest in everything that pertained to the good of the community, and his death was sincerely mourned. The mother passed away in 1871, after a long and useful life of eighty-five years. The children whom they reared to manhood and womanhood were Polly, John, Philip, Elizabeth, Samuel and Ann. Philip, the subject of this sketch, was reared to manhood in the State of his nativity, remaining at home with his parents until he had reached the age of thirty-one years. In 1850 he started out in life on his own responsibility as a farmer, and the same year wedded Miss Elizabeth Baer, daughter of Joseph and Anna (Hite) Baer, who was born in Rockbridge County, Va., in 1825, and by whom he is the father of four children: John B., Samuel J., Anna H. and Catherine E. Her parents were both born in Shenandoah County, Va., in 1782, but soon after their marriage they moved to Rockbridge County, Va., where they made their home and died after rearing a family of ten children, viz.: John, Mary, Jacob, Anna, Joseph, Rachel, Fannie, Noah, Samuel and Elizabeth. After his marriage Mr. Ebberd farmed in Virginia, and there reared his family, but in 1871 he left his native State and came to Nebraska, where he has ever since been successfully engaged in farming. He was called upon to mourn his second son, Samuel J., who died here in Nebraska in 1877. Mrs. Ebberd is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ebberd takes an active interest in politics, casting his vote with the Democratic party, and has at various times been honored by his party with several local offices.

Edward C. Focke. Among those who have made for themselves an honorable name by a long term of years of steady and successful business pursuits and upright citizenship, is the immediate subject of this sketch. In truth, the history of every community is made up, so far as its interesting features are concerned, of the events and acts of its more prominent people. Edward C. Focke is a true representative of that sterling type of western manhood, where it took the enterprise and courage of the pioneer to drift with the popular tide of immigration to the far west, and with

but little or no means at his command, acquire a competence and an honorable name by hard work and fair dealing, assisted by his native shrewdness. Born March 7, 1837, in Baltimore, Md., he grew to manhood in his native State, but later (1849) moved to Ohio. It was in this State he resided when the Rebellion occurred, and with the thousands of other brave men, he volunteered his services for its suppression. In March, 1862, his services were accepted, and he was made a member of Company H, Sixty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the Second Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, and as such served until the close of the war. During the year 1870 he purchased the farm he now owns, in Nuckolls County, and which is known as the Ashbrock farm. This he has succeeded in improving to such an extent that it is recognized as one of the best in the State. It is abundantly watered by the main branch of Crosby's Creek, on the banks of which grow quite a number of such forest trees as are native to the State, and it is particularly adapted to the rearing of stock, to which Mr. Focke has turned his attention considerably, and at which he has made a tolerable success. With a good frame residence, a fine farm, large quantities of the various kinds of small fruit, and a fair grade of stock, Mr. Focke is prepared to enjoy life to the fullest extent. With all this, he yet exists in a state of single blessedness, is six feet and three inches in height, perfectly erect, and weighs 245 pounds. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, is a happy bachelor of fifty-three winters (and as many summers), and is quoted as having said that "no widows need apply." In his religious views he is a Protestant Episcopal, and he also belongs to the G. A. R. and K. of L. His parents were Frederick and Regena R. (Karthons) Focke, the former born in Baltimore, Md., in 1802, and the latter in the same city June 29, 1805. The father was the son of German parents, who resided in Hanover. He died in 1876, preceded by his wife on June 17, 1872. Mrs. Focke was the daughter of Peter Karthous, one of the Dutch landlords in his day, and whose farm is still in possession of the heirs in Clearfield County, Pa.

Martin L. Fogel, a pioneer citizen and representative business man of Superior, Neb., was born in Monroe County, Ohio, on March 11, 1855, and is the son of John P. and Margaret A. (Slack) Fogel, both of whom were also natives of Monroe County, Ohio. The parents came to Superior, Neb., in April, 1877, and here both spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1885, and the mother in 1887. The paternal grandparents, Frederick and Margaret Fogel, were natives of Germany and Ireland, respectively. They came to America with their respective parents, and were married in the State of Pennsylvania. Of the six children born to his parents, of whom Martin L. Fogel was the youngest, four are now living—two sons and two daughters. Martin L. was reared to manhood in his native county, laboring on the farm during the summer and attending the district schools during the winter months. He thus received a good practical education, and in the early part of the year 1877 he, in company with his brother, George F. Fogel, came to Nebraska. On reaching Hastings the latter made a location, but Martin L. proceeded to Superior (which place then contained but thirty-two persons), and arrived on February 5, 1877. Of the voters then living in the town, only four are residing there now. From the spring of 1877 until January, 1880, Mr. Fogel was engaged in the hardware business, and during the same time he served as postmaster of Superior. In January, 1880, he resigned the above office and entered upon the duties of county treasurer, to which office he had been elected in the previous fall. He was re-elected in the fall of 1881, and served altogether four years. In the spring of 1884 he established the Nelson Gazette at Nelson, Neb., of which he was editor and proprietor two years. During his residence at Nelson he assisted in organizing a private bank at that place, which is now the First National Bank of Nelson. In 1886 he returned to Superior, engaging in the dry goods business, which he followed about two years. In 1888 he began the erection of a large and handsome brick block in Superior, which was completed in 1889. Since then his chief attention has been given to the man-

agement of his property interests. Mr. Fogel is now a member of the board of education, having been elected to that position in April, 1888. He was married on January 3, 1879, to Miss Prudence A. Gorby, a native of West Virginia, and the daughter of Vincent P. and Elizabeth Gorby. Mr. and Mrs. Fogel have had four children: Normie, Paul, Raymond and Lyle. Raymond is deceased. Mr. Fogel is a Republican in politics, and he and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is one of Superior's most influential men, and he and wife are very highly respected.

I. G. Foster is the efficient manager of D. T. Cornell & Co.'s lumber yards at Nelson, Neb., and was born in Crawford County, Pa., October 5, 1843, and in 1854 moved with his parents to Illinois, in which State he was reared and educated. Upon the breaking out of the Civil War he became a member of Company G, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, entering on his duties on August 15, 1862, and served faithfully and well until June 20, 1865, when he was discharged. He was in the Twenty-third Army Corps under Gen. Burnside and under him participated in twenty-seven general engagements and 110 skirmishes. In the campaign of 1863-64 in Kentucky and Tennessee he was with Maj.-Gen. A. E. Burnside, and during the Georgia campaign of 1864 was with Maj.-Gen. W. T. Sherman. He was also with Thomas in Tennessee in that year, and in 1865 was with Gen. Schofield. He took part in the engagements at Knoxville, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, Nashville and Fort Henderson. After the close of the war he returned home and engaged in the hardware business in Lafayette, Stark County, Ill., and there he remained successfully engaged in business until 1886, when he came west and settled in Nuckolls County, Neb. He established the lumber yard at this point, and has built up a paying trade. He was married in Illinois, his wife, who was formerly Miss Emmogene Wentworth, being born in Vermont in 1847. They have two children: Lovell J. and Charles E. Mr. Foster is a son of George and Louisa (Hall) Foster, both of whom were born

in Pennsylvania, the former in 1809 and the latter in 1821. The father died in April, 1890, and besides his widow, six of the nine children born to him survive him. The mother is of German descent and resides in Henry County, Ill. The paternal grandfather was born in Ireland and when a child was brought to America. Ira G. Foster belongs to the G. A. R., the A. F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F.

James R. French, superintendent of public schools of Nuckolls County, Neb., is well known throughout this portion of the State as a fine disciplinarian and a superior educator. His birth occurred in Fayette County, Pa., on the 20th of January, 1856, he being a son of James W. and Leah M. (Field) French, and in the county of his birth he was reared and educated, receiving the advantages of the common-schools. After teaching for three years in Pennsylvania, he came to Nebraska, in April, 1879, and began working at his trade, that of a carpenter, but in the fall of 1879 gave this up to again engage in teaching, which he continued until 1883, having been principal of the Nelson public schools in the spring of 1882. He first filled the position of deputy treasurer of Nuckolls County, then became deputy county clerk, then deputy clerk of the district court, filling these positions until he was elected county superintendent of schools in November, 1887. After serving one term, he was re-elected in the fall of 1889, and is still the incumbent of that office, his salary being \$1,200. Prof. French has always been a Republican in his political views, is a member of the K. of P., the A. F. & A. M. socially, and is a member of the Christian Church. The most of his education was received under the directions of his father by the fireside at home, the latter having been a school teacher for about thirty years. He, as well as his father, was born in Fayette County, Pa., but the great-grandfather came from England or Wales, as a scribe, to fight against the colonists, and during the Revolutionary struggle was taken prisoner and here afterward concluded to locate, becoming a school teacher. The maternal grandmother was a West, a relative of Benjamin West.

Rev. William S. Fulton, minister, Nuckolls

County. The subject of this sketch was born in Logan County, Ohio, March 17, 1849. His father, James Fulton, was born in Pennsylvania, and remained in his native State until he had reached his eighteenth year, when he came to Logan County, Ohio, and settled on a farm, subsequently marrying Miss Mary Stewart, a native of Champaign County. He was one of the pioneers of that county, having settled there when the Indians were still numerous and the whole country a wilderness. He still resides on the old place, having been a resident of that county for nearly seventy years, and is now in his eighty-eighth year and a prominent member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Fulton passed from this life May 28, 1878. She was respected and loved by all who knew her, for her amiable, Christian character. Rev. William S. Fulton grew to manhood in Logan County, and received his education at Geneva College, from that institution being graduated in 1873; subsequently he took a theological course at Allegheny City, which he completed in 1877, and in December of that year was ordained as a minister. He came west as a missionary in 1876, and spent the summer of that year in Webster county, organizing churches, etc. In 1877 he entered into active ministerial work, taking charge of a church in Muskingum County, Ohio, near Zanesville, over which he presided for five years, one year of that time being spent in traveling for the church in different States. In the fall of 1884 he came to Nebraska, and the same year received a call from the Reformed Presbyterian congregation of Benlah, where he still labors, beloved by his people. The church membership at that time was very small, but under Mr. Fulton's efficient pastorate it has grown steadily, and now numbers over seventy members. He has charge of two organizations, with a Sabbath-school connected with each. Mr. Fulton was married in Branch County, Mich., August 27, 1877, to Miss Jennie French, a most estimable young lady. She was born and reared in Branch County. She is a graduate of Geneva College (Ohio), and for some years previous to her marriage was engaged in teaching. She is now a prominent worker in the W. C. T. U., and is a

very superior lady. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton are the parents of three interesting children: Mary Estella, Adrienne and Bessie.

Charles H. Gillett, farmer and stockman, of Highland Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., is a native of Marshall County, Ill., where he was born in 1855. His parents, Corydon and Mercy A. (Bagley) Gillett, were born in Connecticut and Ohio, in 1812 and 1822, respectively, and in the latter State they were married about the year 1845. Mr. Gillett first removed from his native State to New York, from there to Ohio, and finally settled in Illinois, being still a resident of Marshall County, having followed the occupation of agriculture all his life. Seven of the nine children born to himself and wife grew to maturity, and are still living: Mary (who lives with her parents), Henry (a mechanic, of Chicago), Elizabeth (deceased), Benjamin (living in York County, Neb.), Charles H., Lusetta (deceased), William, Louella (wife of Asa Nighswonger, a mechanic of Chicago) and Sherman (a resident of Chicago). Charles H. Gillett, after living with his parents until he was twenty-two years of age, and receiving the advantages of a common-school education, began life for himself as an Illinois farmer, but, after following the plow in that State for six years, he moved to York County, Neb., and in the spring of 1886 came to Nuckolls County, having purchased his present property here in February, 1880. This land was totally unimproved when he settled on it four years ago, but it is now considered one of the best farms in this section of the country, and is well improved in the matter of buildings, fences, etc., and eighty acres are under cultivation. Nancy E. Baker, a daughter of Joseph and Henrietta (Weaver) Baker, became his wife in December, 1878, her birth having occurred in Stark County, Ill. Politically Mr. Gillett is a Republican.

Adam Glasgow, a farmer and stock-raiser of Alban Precinct, Nuckolls County, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, September 17, 1841. His father, Arthur Glasgow, a native of the Emerald Isle (County Antrim), was born July 1, 1815, and emigrated with his parents to this country when he was fifteen years of age, locating in Ohio, in

1832, where he spent the remainder of his youth. He married, October 20, 1840, at Wheeling, W. Va., Miss Jane Neal, who was also born in Ireland (County Derry), October 15, 1815, and brought his bride to Guernsey County, Ohio, and there made a farm, which he cultivated, and reared his family of six boys and four daughters. His wife died on January 23, 1886, but Mr. Glasgow still survives, at the ripe old age of seventy-four years. Adam Glasgow grew to manhood in Guernsey County, Ohio, remaining with his father until he was twenty years of age, and on October 16, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Sixty-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served till December 31, 1863, and was discharged at Blain's Cross Roads, East Tennessee, by reason of re-enlistment as a veteran volunteer. He re-enlisted January 1, 1864, and served in the same command till May 27, 1865, and was discharged. During this time he was promoted to corporal. He was in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga, and all the engagements with the Army of the Cumberland. He was four and a half months in prison, being captured at Stone Mountain, Ga.; was held in Camp Oglethorpe, Ga., also at Augusta, Ga., and Florence, S. C. While in the service he had his feet so badly frozen that three pieces of bone came out of his right foot. After receiving his discharge, he returned to his home, in Guernsey County, and in the following year engaged in tilling the soil, continuing in that occupation for four years, at which time he took Horace Greeley's advice, and went west, to Page County, Iowa, and located a farm, which he broke out and improved, living on it for seven years. In 1875 he moved to Platte County, Neb., and took a homestead, and after residing on it five years, he proved up on it, sold it, and then came to Nuckolls County, Neb., and purchased his present property, which was then wild land, but is now under cultivation, and has been greatly improved by the erection of buildings and planting of trees. His farm comprises 160 acres of land, 100 of which he has under cultivation, and in connection with farming this land, Mr. Glasgow has the use of 120 acres, which he leased, seventy of which he cultivates, and forty of which are under fence

for pasture. Mr. Glasgow chose Miss Anna Myers, of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, as his companion in life, and wedded her in Ohio, in the spring of 1869, on March 11. She was the daughter of David and Harriet Myers. Mrs. Glasgow's parents were of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow had eight children born to them: Sarah Edna (born in Page County, September 13, 1871, and married to Mr. Samuel C. Mawhiney, April 3, 1890), James Cameron (born in Page County, Iowa, July 13, 1873, is a young man at home), Mary Arabella (born March 6, 1876, in Platte County, Neb.), Jennie Floreuce (born February 15, 1878, in Platte County, Neb.), Rose May (born July 4, 1880, in Platte County, Neb.), Cora Gertrude (born January 7, 1883, in Nuckolls County, Neb.), Arthur Neal (born September 10, 1885, in Nuckolls County, Neb.), Ethel Joy (born March 7, 1888, in Nuckolls County, Neb., and died July 22, 1889, aged one year, three months and fifteen days). Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow and their three eldest children are members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

John G. Graham, farmer and stock-man, Edgar, Neb. Mr. Graham, a successful and progressive farmer of Nuckolls County, was born in Todd County, Ky., on June 26, 1831, and was the eldest of six children, three now living, born to his parents. The latter were natives of North Carolina and Kentucky, and born in 1801 and 1809, respectively. The father very distinctly remembered the War of 1812. The mother is still living, makes her home in Iowa, and is eighty-one years of age. Her maiden name was Miss Mary A. Stephenson. John G. Graham emigrated with his parents to Central Illinois when three years of age, received his education in the common schools, and has always been interested in educational matters. During the war he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Thirty-third Illinois Volunteers, and was mustered into service at Springfield, Ill. He served his time and re-enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers for one year, being placed on garrison duty. He was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill. In the summer of 1864 he weighed 185 pounds, and measured five feet nine and a half inches in height.

Since then he has been afflicted with spinal trouble and weighs but 121 pounds, and is but five feet in height. He was married in Macoupin County, Ill., to Miss Nancy Johnson, and to them were born eight children, six now living: Isaac Thomas (a farmer by occupation, married Miss Hagler, a native of Illinois), William H. H. (a farmer by occupation, married Miss Powell, a native of Illinois), Newton (single, is engaged in farming on the old homestead), Carrie B. (married John E. Appleyard, a native of England, having emigrated from that country in 1872, and is now engaged in tilling the soil), Edwin Everly (single and a farmer by occupation) and Hattie M. (who is a well educated young lady and is residing at home. Mr. Graham has always been of strong abolition principles, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. John C. Fremont. He is a staunch Republican. Mr. Graham is an active member of the I. O. O. F., belonged at Waverly, Ill., to Hicks Lodge No. 80, and is now a charter member of Edgar Lodge. He also advocates the principles of the Farmers' Alliance, being a member of the same in the Clay County Lodge, and is a member of the G. A. R., at Edgar. He and Mrs. Graham are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Edgar, Neb. They have a pleasant home, are the owners of 400 acres of land, and have some fine blooded stock.

Alanson L. Greenleaf, Bostwick Township, Nuckolls County, Neb. The subject of this sketch was born in Chenango County, N. Y., July 30, 1831, and is a son of Charles and Mary Ann (Thornington) Greenleaf, both of whom were born in Chenango County. The father tilled the soil in Chenango County for many years, but in 1862 he went to Nevada, and located on a ranch on Carson River, on which he resided until his death in July, 1864, his wife dying a few days before his death occurred. They reared a family of five children to maturity, of whom our subject is the second child and the oldest son. He was reared to farm-labor in his native county, and on attaining his majority he left his home and located on a farm in the same county, which he cultivated until 1875, when he sold out and came west, locating in Republican County, Kas., in October, 1876. He bought

a claim which he pre-empted, and soon made into a good farm. He built a good house and resided there for seven years and then, in 1883, he sold out and moved to Nebraska, purchasing the 160 acres of land on which he is now living. On this he has erected a good one-story residence, substantial out-buildings, etc. Some time since Mr. Greenleaf sold eighty acres of this land to his son Charles F., keeping eighty acres for himself, and he has about sixty acres of this land under cultivation. Mr. Greenleaf votes a straight Democratic ticket. He was married in Chenango County, N. Y., September 15, 1853, to Miss Sarah M. Gould, a native of New York, and the daughter of Orseumus Gould, and this union was blessed in the birth of five children, viz.: Edgar L., Arthur J., Charles F., Ceola M., and Louis A. Edgar L. is married and makes his home in Jewell County, Kas.; Arthur J. (married) died in July, 1887, in his twenty-ninth year; Charles F. is married and lives adjoining his father on a part of the farm; Ceola M. is the wife of Frank Willkins, of Republic County, Kas., and Louis A. is a lad of eleven years.

L. E. Griffith, jeweler, of Nelson, Neb., was born in Pavia, Pa., in the year 1857, and although reared to a farming and saw-milling life, he acquired a good education in the common schools. At the age of twenty years he was married to Miss Lizzie Whysong, a native of the same place as himself, born in 1856, she having been a teacher in the public schools of Pennsylvania for some years prior to her marriage. From childhood Mr. Griffith had a desire to learn the watch maker and jeweler's trade, but did not find a way to gratify his wishes until after he had attained his majority and was married. He commenced his apprenticeship at the age of twenty-five years in Bedford, Pa., and at the end of three years was thoroughly familiar with the details of this business. While learning the trade he used the funds he had saved while he worked at blacksmithing in previous years, his accumulations being amply sufficient to provide for himself and family, and at the end of this time he moved to Nelson, Neb., where he opened a jewelry store, in connection with a partner. Although Mr. Griffith made considerable

money, they were so unfortunate as to be burned out, but nothing daunted Mr. Griffith again opened a jewelry establishment, only to be once more burned out. Although he sustained very heavy losses, he is once more following his trade, and as he receives the patronage of all his old patrons he hopes soon to recover his lost ground. He and his wife have an interesting family of four children: Elsie, Irving Blaine, Mary and Loring Edmund, Jr. Mr. Griffith is a son of William and Susan (Harzel) Griffith, both of whom were Pennsylvanians. The father owned a large coopering establishment and saw mill, and died in 1886, at the age of ninety-five years, his wife dying in 1878, at the age of eighty years. Of a family of fourteen children born to them all are living, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest. The paternal grandfather was born in Wales, and upon coming to America served in the Revolutionary War. The maternal grandfather came from Germany.

Edward L. Grisell, farmer and stock-raiser, Superior. This prominent agriculturist and much esteemed citizen of Garfield Township, Nuckolls County, Neb., was originally from the Keystone State, where his birth occurred October 16, 1820, and is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Adams) Grisell, both natives also of Pennsylvania. The parents moved to Ohio in 1821, settled in Harrison County, which they found a wilderness, and there the father was engaged in farming and blacksmithing. He remained there until the year 1829, when he removed to Monroe County, Ohio, and there passed the remainder of his days, his death occurring about 1863 at a ripe old age. The mother died in 1880 at the age of eighty-six years. Edward L. Grisell, the second of twelve children, eight of whom grew to maturity, attained his growth and secured a common-school education in Ohio. He had one brother in the Civil War, Thomas S., who enlisted in the Twenty-fifth Ohio Regiment, and was killed at the battle of Cross Keys. Mr. Grisell was married in Monroe County, in 1843, to Miss Emily Gray, a native of Harrison County, and the daughter of Elijah and Charlotte (Davis) Gray. Mr. Grisell came to Nebraska

in 1881, located where he now resides on Oak Creek, which is well timbered, and is the owner of 320 acres of well improved land; most of which is bottom land and very fertile. To his marriage were born eight children, six of whom grew to maturity: Jesse D., Charlotte J. (wife of M. S. Stine), Annie (wife of C. N. Tomlinson), Simeon, Emma (wife of E. Carpenter) and Thomas. George and Addie died in infancy. Jesse D. Grisell, the eldest of this family, was born in August, 1846, and was reared in Monroe County, Ohio, where he received a good education. He then taught school for four years in that county, and in 1868 was wedded to Miss Sarah Tomlinson, a native of Monroe County, Ohio, who came to Nebraska in 1880. Jesse D. Grisell located on the farm adjoining the town, on which he and his father both reside. To his marriage were born two children: Charles and Addie. The entire family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Superior, Neb.

Charles W. Hackler is one of the most successful young teachers in Nuckolls County, and as a young man of sterling character and good habits, he is well worthy of being represented in these pages. He first opened his eyes to the light of this world in Adams County, Ill., January 1, 1869, being the youngest of six children born to George and K. Hackler, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. The latter was the daughter of James and Tabitha Jones, who resided in Anderson County, Tenn. James Jones was born in Hawkins County, Tenn., in 1800. At the age of twenty-one he was united in marriage to Tabitha Staley. Ten children were the result of this union, whose names in the order of their ages are as follows: John, Nancy, James T., Louisa, Kisiah, William R., Mary A., Arthur A., Lucinda and Andrew J. James Jones began the practice of law at the age of twenty-five, and remained in the profession until his death, which occurred in 1854. Kisiah Jones was born in Anderson County, Tenn., in 1829, where she grew to young womanhood. In 1852 she was united in marriage to George H. Hackler, son of George and Eve Hackler. George H. Hackler was born in McMinn County, Tenn., in 1817. While young he tried various employments, but

finally settled down to the work of teaching, in which profession he continued until after his marriage in 1852. The newly married couple emigrated to Scott County, Ill., and settled on a farm, thence moving to Adams County, Ill., and afterward to Piatt County, Ill., and there remained until the death of George H. Hackler, which occurred in 1882. In the spring of 1885 his widow and four children removed to Nuckolls County, Neb., where they now reside. There were born to George H. and Kisiah Hackler six children, whose names in the order of their ages are as follows: John B., Eley J., George T., Tryphena, Owen H. and Charles W. John B. Hackler received an education at Valparaiso, Ind., and afterward attended the State Normal School at Bloomington, Ill. He engaged in the profession of teaching, in which he remained three years, and in the meantime studied telegraphy. He now holds a position on the Illinois Central Railroad. He was married to Miss Anna Heckman, of Manito, Ill., in 1886. They now reside at New Holland, Ill. Eley J. Hackler received a common-school education, and was married to Warren Cain in 1878. Three children were born to them: Henrietta, Lewis Leonard and Elmer. They now reside at Decatur, Ill. George T. Hackler received an education in the Bement high school at Bement, Ill. He went to Nebraska with the family at the time of their emigration, and is still living on the farm at home. Tryphena Hackler received her education in the Clayton high school, at Clayton, Ill. She emigrated to Nebraska with the rest of the family. She still lives at home. Owen H. Hackler received an education in the Bement high school, at Bement, Ill. He came to Nebraska with the rest of the family and remains at home. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Nuckolls County, and received his education in the Superior high school, from which he was graduated. After completing his scholastic studies he commenced teaching, and has continued in that occupation with marked success for three years. He is a very promising young man, and is already considered one of the best educators in the county.

J. M. Hall, justice of the peace of Nelson, is a native of Indiana, born in Putnam County, August 25, 1839, and is one of the much-esteemed citizens of the county. He received limited educational advantages in his youth, and was early taught the duties of farm life. After growing up, he went to Missouri, where he remained for several years, and was engaged in the storage business for one year. He then went to Paris, of that State, where he worked on a farm for some time and then went to Iowa to join his parents, who had moved there in 1851. The following fall he returned to Indiana with an uncle, and on September 17, 1861, he joined the Northern army, Company I, Twenty-seventh Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged on December 17, 1862, on account of a gunshot wound received in the shoulder, just one year from the day he was mustered into service. Just three weeks after receiving his wound he had an operation performed on his shoulder, after which he was totally disabled from further service in the army. He then returned to Indiana, and from there to his parents in Iowa. Seeing the necessity of a better education he attended school for some time, and in the winter of 1863-64, began teaching school. He was married in Iowa, and remained there teaching in the public schools until 1873, when he went to Denver, Colo. After remaining west for some time, he returned to Iowa, and there his wife died in the summer of 1874. He again attended school and came to Nelson in March, 1875, taking a homestead in Section 8, Town 2, Range 8, in June of that year. He subsequently sold his homestead, moved to town and engaged in the farm machinery and implement business, which he continued until 1889. He then closed out and started a livery barn, which he has since successfully conducted. He filled the office of justice of the peace while in Iowa, also held the same position while living on his farm in Nebraska, and now holds that position in Nelson. He was first married to Miss Nancy J. Ellis, who bore him two children, both deceased. In 1877 Mr. Hall married Miss Mary J. Attkisson, and they have four children—two daughters and two sons—all living and named as follows: Jessie, Maude, Claude and

Charley. Mr. Hall is a Republican in politics, is a member of the G. A. R., and for thirty-two years has been a member of the Baptist Church, of which he is deacon. He is the son of Warren and Cynthia (Parkes) Hall, the father a native of Kentucky and the mother of North Carolina. Both died in Iowa, the former in Clarke and the latter in Decatur County. Mr. Hall had three brothers and four step-brothers in the Union army during the war.

Frederick S. Halverson, farmer and stock-raiser, living on Section 10, Town 4, Range 8, Victor Township. The subject of this sketch and his estimable wife have borne a most useful and prominent part in the settlement and development of the county, having been identified with its interests since 1870, at which time they came here and took up land on which they have since made their home, but not without considerable difficulty. In the first days of their settlement they experienced a great deal of trouble with the Indians, at one time being driven from home by the savages. They were among the very early settlers in this section, Mrs. Halverson being the very first white woman on Liberty Creek, and about the first in this part of the county, and consequently she has gone through some pretty rough experiences. For many years after her settlement she was the only doctor in this part of the county, and during this time attended 365 births. Mr. Halverson took a prominent part in organizing the county. He was born in Fall River, Mass., in 1829, being the fifth of ten children born to Cenute and Ann (Olson) Halverson, both of whom were born in Denmark. They were wedded in their native land and soon after came to America, choosing Fall River, Mass., as their place of residence, and here they had established a good home for their young and growing family, when death invaded their home circle, removing the wife and mother. Her death rendered ten little children motherless, their names being Halver, Margaret, Mary, Charles, Frederick (our subject), Joseph, Minnie, Carry, Caroline and Cenute. The father died in Fall River, Mass., some time since the war. They were both members of the Friends' Church, and were greatly

respected and esteemed in the community in which they resided. The immediate subject of this sketch passed his boyhood days in his native town. In early youth he went to Wisconsin and settled on a farm, tilling the soil in the summer, and attending school in the winter. In 1855 he went to Dubuque County, Iowa, and for a number of years was engaged in cutting and hauling timber at that place, and here his marriage to Miss Mary Young was consummated in 1863. She was a daughter of Charles and Ann (Donley) Young, the latter a native of Bedford County, Pa. Her father has a very interesting history. He was born in Ireland in 1876, and when a child of but two years, his parents were killed and he stolen and taken aboard a pirate vessel, on which he remained for thirty-four years. He left the vessel in 1812 on the American coast, and upon landing was taken prisoner as a spy. He afterward served in the War of 1812. He was married in Bedford County, Pa., subsequently moving to Ohio, and followed the tailor's trade very successfully in Athens County. He died in 1840 and his wife in 1880. They were both church members, the father believing in the doctrines of the Presbyterian and the mother in those of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They reared a family of nine children: Adolphus, Rhoda, Amy, Amanda, Mary, Nancy, America, Joseph and Elizabeth. After his marriage Mr. Halverson settled down to farming in Iowa, and tilled the soil with reasonable success for seven years, when, hearing of the superior soil and climate of Nebraska, he resolved to cast his fortunes with this new State, and accordingly located in Nuckolls County, as noted in the beginning of this sketch, and success has attended him ever since. They have fought their way in this new country, and their success is well deserved. In politics Mr. Halverson sides with the Republican party, and both he and wife are church members, he worshiping at the Methodist Episcopal and she at the Baptist Church. Their married life has not been blessed with any children, but they have taken two children—Rhoda E. and Elizabeth—to their heart and home. The elder child, Rhoda, was the first white child born in this part of the

county. She is now the wife of O. F. Dickerson; Elizabeth is still at home and attending school. Viola Wagner and Mr. Halverson organized the first Sunday-school (Methodist) on Liberty Creek, in a dug-out.

James Hanthorn, farmer and stock-raiser, Nora Township. Thomas and Ann (Hawthorne) Hanthorn were both born in the North of Ireland, and there passed their childhood and more mature years, and here, too, they were married, but soon after this latter event took place, thinking the new world afforded larger opportunities for an industrious young couple to establish a good, comfortable home, they came to America in 1825. Upon their arrival they located in Baltimore, Md., remaining there for some time, and then moved to Chambersburg, Pa., where the father built two miles of railroad, and it was at this place the subject of this sketch first opened his eyes, the sixth of their nine children. They continued to make their home in Pennsylvania until James had reached his ninth year, and then moved to Illinois, locating near Abingdon, in Knox County, where the father took up a farm of rough, unbroken land, which he cleared and made into a good farm, on which he resided until January 3, 1872, when he passed from this earth. His faithful companion survived this sorrow until July, 1880, when she, too, passed away. The father was one of the pioneers of Knox County, where he was well known, having done much toward the improvement and development of that county, and his death was greatly regretted. The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and youth in Illinois, being reared to hard work on his father's farm, and obtained his education in the common schools of Knox County. In October, 1861, he went to defend the Union, enlisting in Company K, Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry (which company he had taken an active part in forming) for three years, and was mustered into service at Chicago, and served as corporal for nearly a year, when he was honorably discharged for disability, receiving his discharge at St. Louis, in August, 1862. He was in the Army of Tennessee, and belonged to the Fifteenth Army Corps. He participated in the battle of

Shiloh, at which battle he was struck in the ankle by a fragment of shell. He was sent to the hospital at St. Louis, in which he remained some eight weeks, and then went home and engaged in teaching, in which occupation he continued in Knox County for a number of years. He selected Miss Sarah E. Teel as a life companion, and married her in Knox County, Ill., on April 29, 1869, and their life has been gladdened by four children: Walter Allyn, Lucy L., Emma E. and Mattie Alice. Mrs. Hanthorn was born in Macoupin, Ill., a daughter of Ammi C. and Delia (Allyn) Teel, natives of Massachusetts and New York, respectively. The father was a contractor and builder by occupation, and moved to Macoupin County, Ill., January 1, 1846, and opened up a farm. In 1864 he moved to Knox County, Ill., and there made his home until 1877, at which time he came to Nebraska, and is now living at Indianola. The mother died in Knox County, Ill., in 1866. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Hanthorn settled on a farm in Knox County, Ill., and tilled the soil there with moderate success until 1879, and then came to Nebraska. He purchased 160 acres of raw prairie land, and immediately set about improving it, and now has his farm under a good state of cultivation, with a good farm residence, substantial barn, sheds, out-buildings, etc. He also owns 160 acres of choice land in Northern Kansas. In politics Mr. Hanthorn is a staunch Republican, and takes an active interest in the political affairs of his county. In the fall of 1888 he was elected representative of the Forty-third District, and is now very efficiently discharging the duties of that position. He has always taken a deep interest in all affairs of the county, especially its religious and educational matters. He was active in assisting to organize school districts, and has ever since taken a deep interest in the schools. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church of Superior, and are zealous workers in the same. Mr. Hanthorn is especially interested in Sunday-school work, always attending the convention, and is superintendent of the Sunday-school of his district. Although not a pioneer of Nuckolls County, Mr. Hanthorn has experienced

some of the hardships and inconveniences of early settlement, his nearest markets at the time of locating here being Nelson and Superior, a distance of ten miles, to which points he hauled the produce of his farm. He has a market within four miles of him now, and the Northwestern Railway crosses his farm. Although quite an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, Mr. Hanthorn devotes considerable time to fruit culture, and has a choice variety of fruits of all kinds. Socially he belongs to Nelson Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., and is a member of George H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., at Nelson.

John Harris, farmer and stock-raiser, Liberty, Neb. The occupation which Mr. Harris now follows has received his attention for a number of years, and it is but the truth to say that in it he is thoroughly posted and well informed. He owes his nativity to Indiana, where his birth occurred in 1838, and was the second of three children born to William and Julia Ann (Brush) Harris, natives of the Old Dominion. The parents emigrated to Kentucky at an early day, thence to Indiana, where the mother received her final summons. The father re-married, moved from there to Linn County, Iowa, and subsequently to California. John Harris was reared and educated like the average country boy, and in 1859 he went to Marion County, Iowa, where he tilled the soil for some time. In 1862 he enlisted, at Knoxville, Iowa, for three years in Company E, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and was mustered into service at Davenport, Iowa. He was in the Western army, participated in the battles of Corinth, Atlanta, and in October, 1862, was transferred to Company I, First Missouri Light Artillery, serving in this company until 1864. He was in the Carolina campaign, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea; was at the grand review at Washington, D. C., and was honorably discharged, in June, 1865, at St. Louis, Mo. He then returned to Marion County, Iowa, and was married in that county to Miss Margaret Ann Schirner, a native of Indiana, reared in Iowa, and the daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Titus) Schirner, who were natives of Hamburg, Germany, and Ohio, respectively. Mr. Schirner was married in Indiana, and in 1847 moved to Marion County,

Iowa, being one of the earliest settlers in that county. He enlisted in the army in 1863 for three years, and was in what was called the Gray Beard Regiment, serving until 1865. His death occurred in June, 1876, and the mother died in March of the same year. After his marriage, Mr. Harris tilled the soil, and in 1872 he came to Nuckolls County, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land. This he has been engaged in improving ever since, and has an excellent farm. He at first camped two weeks in a wagon, while he put up a dug-out, which he lived in for some time. He was obliged to go over 100 miles for provisions at that time. He has a good orchard and plenty of shade trees. In 1877 Mr. Harris erected a good story-and-a-half house, this being one of the first in the township, and he has all his land under a good state of cultivation. He is a Republican in politics, is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and Mrs. Harris are members of the United Brethren Church. To them have been born ten children, seven living: Mattie (now Mrs. La Bounty, residing in Sherman Precinct), Andrew, Walton, Lawrence, Frank, Willie (died at the age of one year and eighteen days), Zella (died at the age of eighteen months), Nettie, James, Joseph (who died in infancy). As one of the earliest settlers of Nuckolls County, Mr. Harris has witnessed the wonderful improvement made in the last eighteen years, and has been through the grasshopper raids of 1874, was burned out in 1875, and was in the Easter storm of 1873, at which time the family, except Mr. Harris, stayed in the dug-out for three days. He pushed the snow away, and crawling out at the top of the door, borrowed a spade and shoveled the snow from the door, it being about ten feet deep.

Joshua Cottingham Harritt, farmer and stock-raiser, Angus, Neb. Nuckolls County has long had the reputation of being one of the best stock-raising counties in the State. Not only do the farmers here give their principal attention to this industry, but they are generally men of enterprise and information, who take pride in agricultural affairs also, and certainly this has a beneficial result, for it is a source of profit to the farmers themselves. Prominent among those who have

done their full share in advancing every interest of the county is Mr. Harritt, who was born in Ohio on June 1, 1836, and who was the seventh of eight children—four sons and four daughters: John (deceased), Robert (deceased), Jane (married to John Dye, a native of Ohio, and resides in Jay County, Ind.), Elizabeth (resides in Ohio), Mary (deceased), Susan (resides in Ohio, married John Hart, a native of Ohio, and a farmer by occupation), Joshua C. and William (residing in Nuckolls County, Neb.). William is a farmer by occupation, and was married to Miss Belle Dunkleburger, a native of Ohio. The father of these children was a native of Pennsylvania, and died at the advanced age of ninety years. He was an old veteran in the War of 1812, and was a farmer by occupation. The mother was a native of Maryland and died at the age of seventy-one years. Joshua C. Harritt's educational advantages during youth were quite limited, but he is a friend and supporter of all schools. He was married to Miss Sarah Miller, a native of Ohio, born in 1839, and the fruits of this union were seven children: William S. (resides in Nuckolls County, and married Miss Elizabeth Dunken, a native of Wisconsin; he was well educated at Edgar graded school, also took a course at the Ottawa University under the espionage of the Baptist Society and fitted himself for professional work), Charles E. (attending school at Gibbon, Neb.), Maggie Belle (married William Dunken, a farmer by pursuit), Robert F. (resides at home and is a school teacher by profession), Austin M. (on the old homestead), Olive G. and Olive E. (twins). During the war Mr. Harritt enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Ohio Infantry, Company K; was mustered in at Camp Denison, Ohio, for the 100 days' call, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He was assigned to garrison duty, was present at the grand review at Washington, D. C., and was honorably discharged at Camp Denison, Ohio. In 1872 Mr. Harritt emigrated direct from Ohio to Nebraska and entered 160 acres of land. The nearest market at that time was forty miles distant, but Mr. Harritt says he had nothing to sell at that time so no market was needed. All the

surrounding towns, Hastings, Blue Hill, Edgar and Superior, were unknown, and every thing was wild and unsettled. Mr. Harritt has always supported the Republican party, but cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan. He and wife and family are devout and earnest supporters of the United Brethren Church and active workers in the Sunday school. Mr. Harritt has a well-improved farm of 280 acres, and has good substantial buildings on the same. He and wife are well respected by their neighbors for their industry, frugality and thrift.

Adam Hedrick, farmer and stock raiser, Section 4, Liberty Precinct, has been a resident of this county since 1882, at which time he came to Nebraska and purchased a claim of 160 acres of land, which he homesteaded, and on which he now resides. This "claim" was slightly improved at the time he purchased it, but he has since brought it to its present high state of cultivation. He came here direct from West Virginia, where he was born in 1844. He was the youngest in a family of four children, born to Adam and Elizabeth (Coil) Hedrick, both of whom were Virginians by birth. His father farmed in Virginia with very good success until his death, which occurred in 1845, his widow surviving until 1875, when she, too, closed her eyes forever. The subject of this sketch passed his boyhood and youth in his native State, being reared to farm labor, and obtaining his education in the common schools of Virginia, but at the age of eighteen he left his home to engage in the great civil strife then but recently begun. He enlisted in 1862 in Company F, Sixty-sixth Virginia Infantry, and took part in the battle of Gettysburg, the battles in and about Richmond, and was under Gen. Early in the Shenandoah Valley, and during this time he was wounded but once, receiving a gun-shot in the left leg. After receiving his discharge, he returned to the peaceful pursuit of farming, and in 1871 was united in matrimony to Miss Melissa Belle Claine, a native of Virginia, and their home has been brightened by six children, all of whom are living, namely: Claudius B., Linn Delevan, Alonzo Fiske, Vernon, Mary Louisa and Wilber. In 1882 he

moved his family to Nuckolls County, and here they have lived ever since respected by all who know them. Mr. Hedrick takes an active interest in politics, as he does in everything for the good of the community, and belongs to the Alliance.

Levi Heltzel is the accommodating proprietor of the Arlington House, one of the best conducted establishments of the kind in Nuckolls County. He is to the "manor born," and his guests receive every attention at his hands. His birth occurred in the "Keystone State," September 19, 1849, he being a son of Charles and Margaret (Bouser) Heltzel, both of whom were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania. The father has always been engaged in tilling the soil and is still alive, enjoying fairly good health. The mother is deceased, her death having occurred in 1851. Levi Heltzel made his home in Pennsylvania until he reached manhood, and married a Pennsylvania girl, whose birth occurred on June 27, 1847, her name being Sarah E. Fickes. After following the plow in Pennsylvania until 1878, Mr. Heltzel removed with his family to Nuckolls County, Neb., and in the town of Nelson opened the Arlington House in 1880, which has been under his efficient management ever since. The house was erected at his own expense, and is especially fitted up for the accommodation of commercial travelers. He is a Republican in politics and is a German by descent, as his paternal grandparents came from that country. He and wife are the parents of a daughter, Lucinda M., who is attending the Conservatory of Music in Lincoln, Neb.

George W. Henderson, farmer and stock-feeder and shipper, Bostwick, Neb. No name is more closely associated with the farming interests of the county than the one that heads this sketch, for it is borne by a man who is progressive in his ideas, and during his residence in this locality has been one of its most successful agriculturists. He owes his nativity to Morgan County, Ill., where he was born September 12, 1849, a son of M. J. and Mary A. (Gilpin) Henderson. His father was born in Ohio, but moved with his parents to Illinois when he was still a small lad, they being among the pioneer settlers of Morgan County, and here he

grew to manhood, and was married to Miss Mary A. Gilpin, daughter of William Gilpin, a native of Woodford County, Ky. His father was engaged in tilling the soil in Illinois for a number of years, but later moved to Missouri, locating in Ray County, where he made a farm, on which he resided until 1874, when he sold out all his interests and moved to Jewell County, Kas., on the State line, where he resided for a few years, then moved to Superior, Nuckolls County, and died at Bostwick, on January 12, 1890. George W. Henderson spent his boyhood and early youth in Illinois, at the age of seventeen accompanying his parents to Missouri, and thence to Kansas. He located in Jewell County, of the latter State, in the fall of 1874, and made a farm, on which he resided but a short time, when he, in company with a Mr. Parker, came to Nuckolls County, and located a stock ranch (in 1876), and engaged in handling and dealing in cattle. He then settled on a farm where he now resides, comprising 160 acres of good land, all lying in one body, most of it under cultivation and fenced. Here he has all the modern improvements, consisting of a good house, stables, cribs, sheds, wind-pumps, etc., a good young bearing orchard, with some small fruits, a nice young grove, etc. For a few years previous to settling on this farm, Mr. Henderson "bached." He returned to Missouri for a wife, and on December 25, 1877, his marriage to Miss Eliza Jones, daughter of A. Jones (deceased), was consummated. Mrs. Henderson was born, reared and educated in Ray County, Mo. On June 16, 1889, Mrs. Henderson departed this life, leaving five little children motherless, viz.: Myrtle May, W. Claud, George M., Dallas A. and Mitchell (a child of two years, who lives with his grandmother, in Ray County, Mo.). Mr. Henderson is a stanch Democrat in politics, and has held several local offices. He was elected justice of the peace of Bostwick Precinct in the fall of 1889, has served for five consecutive years as assessor of his precinct, and has filled other local offices. He is an auctioneer, and cries most of the sales in this part of Nuckolls and Webster Counties. He belongs to the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Henderson was a faithful member of the Christian Church.

Charles S. Henderson, farmer and stock-dealer, Bostwick, Nuckolls County, Neb. This enterprising young agriculturist was born at Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill., October 29, 1858, being a son of M. J. and M. A. Henderson [see sketch of George Henderson]. When he was fourteen years of age his father moved to Missouri, locating in Ray County and residing there for three years, and then moving to Jewell County, Kas., where Charles S. grew to mature years. In 1883 he came to Bostwick and located on his present place, then entirely new, which he has made into a nice farm. This place lies on both sides of Bostwick, and comprises 240 acres of land, all of it being fenced and about 145 under cultivation. He has a good substantial residence, a nice yard, surrounded by a neat picket fence, beautiful trees and shrubs, and all things going to make up an attractive place, while his large barn, sheds, wind pump, scales, etc., afford excellent facilities for feeding stock, which business Mr. Henderson makes a specialty, feeding about eighty head of cattle and 125 hogs each year. He has a thriving young orchard of about 200 trees on his place, besides a quantity of small fruits. Mr. Henderson is deeply interested in politics, and votes the Democratic ticket, and has been honored by his party with several local offices. He served as assessor of his township for three years, and filled that office very satisfactorily. In 1885 he received the appointment of postmaster at Bostwick, and held that office until January, 1890, and was also engaged in the lumber business at Bostwick for about four years. In November, 1879, Mr. Henderson was united in matrimonial bonds with Miss Josie H. Coin, daughter of J. H. Coin (deceased). Mrs. Henderson was born, reared and educated in Boulder County, Colo., and when a young lady accompanied her parents to Nuckolls County, Neb., where she met and afterward married Mr. Henderson. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson are now the proud parents of three interesting little children: Mionie Pearl, Leroy and Ray. Mr. Henderson affiliates with Valley Lodge No. 87, I. O. O. F., of which lodge he is secretary.

Robert Hollingworth died at his home in Nel-

son, Nuckolls County, April 11, 1890, of carcinoma of the stomach and disease of the liver, after enduring extreme and protracted suffering with heroic fortitude and patience, and manifesting a perfect trust in, and resignation to the will of the great Master above. He was born in Melbourn, England, January 26, 1829. In 1845 he went to sea on board an American ship, and sailed eight years in the merchants' and whaling business. About 1852 or 1853 he came to America, and for several years was foreman of the American Brass & Copper Tube Company, at Somerville, Mass. In 1861 he shipped in the United States navy, on the "Susquehanna" as paymaster's steward, and on the ship "Brandywine," as paymaster's clerk, serving four years in all. Then he went to Boston, and was sick nearly two years, later being employed in the post-office department for awhile. In 1871 he moved to Nebraska, locating in Nuckolls County, on a homestead on Section 17, Town 3, Range 5, living there till 1878, when he moved to Nelson, and engaged in the insurance business and served as deputy county clerk for a number of years, and was at the time of his death clerk of the district court. There were but few settlers in the county when he located. During his brief stay he was successful in business, and besides his official duties and interests, possessed large farming interests in this county. He was married, in 1853, to Miss Louisa C. Ireland, and there were born to them four children: Frank, Tom, Grace and Myra. Losing his wife in 1868, he was married again, in 1874, to Miss Martha C. Turney, of Jefferson County, Neb., who was born in Wayne County, Mich. They have one child, Emma Yates. Mr. Hollingworth was clerk of the committee on ways and means and engrossed and enrolled bills in the Nebraska State Senate for the last sixteen years. He was a member of Nelson Lodge No. 77, A. F. & A. M., also Lodge No. 4, of the I. O. O. F., East Cambridge, Mass., also K. of P. and G. A. R. In many respects he was a remarkable man, gifted with more than ordinary mental endowments, and social qualities, with a great, loving generous heart. He was a kind and true husband, a faithful and affectionate father. As a citizen he was loyal and

true, discharging the duties due the government, as faithfully as those to his own household. As a member of the various lodges to which he belonged, he was highly esteemed for his faithfulness and services, and for his bright, genial spirit, manifested by the radiant beams of love and friendship shining out through his noble, manly face, accompanied with the words of cheer and good will and the hearty handshake, for he always had a word of cheer, not only for his brethren in the lodges, but for all with whom he chanced to meet. It was a real pleasure to do business with him, his office being always radiant with the light of his countenance. Will he be missed? Yes, sadly missed, not only by the loving, faithful wife and dutiful children and noble brothers and sisters, but by all who knew him. May the great Father above, "who tempers the winds to the shorn lambs," comfort and console the bereaved family with the thought that while death took him from their embrace, it released him from his great suffering and opened the gateway of a sweet, peaceful rest.*

Frank W. Hollingworth, deputy district clerk, Nelson, Neb. A number of years passed in a sincere and earnest endeavor to thoroughly discharge every duty incumbent upon the official position he has filled, has served to place Mr. Hollingworth among the leading and most influential men of the county. He was born in Somerville, Mass., in 1854, and is the son of Robert and Louisa C. (Ireland) Hollingworth. As stated in the sketch preceding this, the father was born in Melbourn, England, in 1829, and when twelve years of age ran away and went to sea. He finally settled in Somerville, Mass., and was for years foreman of the American Brass and Copper Tube Works. In 1861 he entered the United States navy service as paymaster's steward, and served on the Susquehanna until transferred to the frigate "Brandywine," where he filled the position of paymaster's clerk. After the burning of the "Brandywine" he entered the navy yard at Norfolk, Va., and was there until late in 1865, holding his former position. He went back to Somerville, Mass., after the war, and was in the post-office department for three

*As published in the local press.

years. In 1871 he came to Nebraska and, with his family, settled on a homestead. He was appointed probate judge at one time, and had also been justice of the peace for many years. He had been deputy county clerk for some time, and was holding the position of clerk of the district court at the time of his death. He had been, for the last sixteen years, clerk of the committee on engrossed and enrolled bills in the Nebraska State Senate. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Royal Arch Chapter, and at Hebron held membership in the Commandery, the K. of P., the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R. He was among the first to take the final degree in Masonry in the State. In his political preferment he was a Republican. The mother was a native of Somerville, Mass., and died in her native town in 1888. Of the four children born to their marriage, Frank W. was the eldest in order of birth. He secured a fair education in Somerville, Mass., and after leaving school he was book-keeper in his uncle's woolen-mills in Canton, Mass. He then went to Nebraska, from there to Wyoming Territory, and worked in railroad shops for some time. After this he returned to Nebraska, remained there one winter and then went to the Black Hills, being among the first to make that perilous trip. Two years later he returned and began farming on the old homestead, which he carried on for three or four years. He was married in 1879 to Miss Frances P. Moore, daughter of James Moore, of Nuckolls County, and after living on the farm for some time, moved to his father-in-law's and helped build a grist-mill. Later he went to Davenport, Neb., and commenced working at his trade of contracting and building. He is now a partner with A. S. Love in a wagon and carriage shop, and carrying on a general building business, at which he is doing well. He also owns a house and two lots there. He is holding the position of deputy district clerk. To his marriage were born two children: Bernice and Bessie. Mr. Hollingworth was clerk of committee on printing in the State Senate in 1883; filled the same position in 1885, and after two weeks was promoted to first assistant secretary of the Senate. He was the

private secretary of Senator Wetherald, Thayer County, and *ex-officio* clerk of committee on claims, and while thus engaged did the work of the first assistant secretary also. He was a Democrat in his political views until 1888, since which time he has been identified with the Republican party. He was master mechanic for G. C. Hott & Co., of Independence, Mo., S. W. Butter & Chase Association, and worked in Kansas and Nebraska. He is one of the administrators to his father's estate. He is a member of Lodge No. 139, I. O. O. F. Davenport, and is also a member of the Sons of Veterans of the same place. His paternal grandfather was born in England and emigrated to the United States in the fifties, locating in Wisconsin. He was a silk manufacturer while living in England, but after coming to the United States became a Baptist minister. His death occurred in Gage County, Neb. The maternal grandfather was born in Massachusetts, and once owned all the land that East Cambridge stands on. He was one of the minute men of the Revolutionary War. He died at Somerville.

George W. Jenkins, farmer and stock-raiser, Section 18, Liberty Township. The subject of this sketch is an Iowan by birth, having made his entrance into this world in Mills County, that State, in 1856. His parents, Jesse and Elizabeth Jenkins, reared a family of five children to maturity, the subject of this brief sketch being the eldest. The father was born in the "Hoosier State," and the mother in Missouri, but soon after their marriage they moved to Mills County, Iowa, where they lived for a number of years, and where the birth of our subject occurred. In 1860 they immigrated to Nebraska, locating in Cass County, where they hoped to make a comfortable home, but their hopes were blighted in 1873 by the death of the husband and father. The same year the widow came to Nuckolls County with her children and took up the homestead on Section 10, on which she is now living. G. W. Jenkins was reared in Cass County, receiving his education in the common schools of that county. In the fall of 1873 he accompanied his mother to Nuckolls County, and filed a claim under the timber culture act, on 160 acres of land

in Section 18, on which he located in the spring of 1874. His means were extremely limited, his worldly possessions amounting to but \$4 after taking his claim, and he experienced all the hardships and privations of a pioneer's life. In 1875 he went east and worked out by the month, in order to support his mother. He bore up bravely under all these trials and vicissitudes, and as a reward for his untiring efforts, is now the owner of a fine property, consisting of 240 acres of choice land, all of which is under an excellent state of cultivation, and improved with good buildings, fences, etc., and a thriving young orchard and grove of forest trees. He devotes the most of his attention to stock-raising, handling from fifty to 100 head of cattle each year, and makes a specialty of thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, of which he keeps about 100 constantly on hand. In politics Mr. Jenkins is quite actively interested, and casts his vote with the Republican party. He is at present efficiently discharging the duties incumbent upon the office of school treasurer of his district, and has served as assessor of his township. He chose Miss Lizzie Hiser as his companion in life, and they were married in Nuckolls County in 1882. She is a most amiable Christian lady, and worships at the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Jenkins was born in Black Hawk County, Iowa, whither her parents, Joel and Louisa (Hedrick) Hiser, both Virginians by birth, had moved at an early day. In 1880 they came to Nuckolls County, where they have since made their home, and are honored and respected citizens. Mrs. Jenkins wielded the birch for a number of years previous to her marriage, and was always considered an excellent teacher. Mr. Jenkins belongs to the Alliance.

J. Q. Johnston, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 7, Town 3, Range 5, Elk Precinct, is a native of Venango County, Pa., born in October, 1842, being the fifth child born to Moses and Harriet (Elliot) Johnston, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. His father spent his young days in tilling the soil in the "Keystone State," but in 1854 moved to Iowa, locating in Cedar County, and the second day after his arrival in that county he passed from this life. His

widow survived until 1862, when she received her summons. She was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a highly respected lady, esteemed by all. Of their family of nine children, five are still living, viz.: Samuel A. (a farmer of Western Kansas), Sarah J. (wife of James Lawhead, of Lincoln County, Neb.), J. Q. (the subject of this sketch), Margaret (wife of T. D. Shaw, of Clay County) and Jeremiah (a farmer of this county). The death of his parents early cast our subject on his own resources, and at the age of fourteen he hired out to a farmer, and continued as a farm-hand for five years, and at the end of that time he commenced farming for himself. His early days were spent in Iowa and Illinois. In the fall of 1870 he removed from Logan County, Ill., to Jefferson County, Neb., and took up a homestead of eighty acres, which he improved and lived on for four years. He then sold it and came to this county, and in 1881 purchased the farm on which he now lives, which comprises 640 acres of choice land, all of which is improved with good buildings, fences, fruit and forest trees, etc. He is largely interested in the raising of stock, especially cattle and hogs. This winter he has fed about 300 head of steers, and the same of hogs. He keeps about twenty-eight head of horses. He was joined in matrimony, in 1857, to Miss Mary E. Simonton, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Ford) Simonton, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Delaware. Mrs. Johnston was born in Ohio, in April, 1842. This union has been blessed in the birth of seven children, viz.: Ida, Alice, Charles, Gertrude, Ionia, May and Hattie. Mr. Johnston was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away in March, 1889. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and belongs to the Edgar Lodge, A. O. U. W., and in politics votes with the Democratic party.

Karl H. Kammerer, a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of this region, resides in Section 30, Nelson Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., and is a native of Baden, on the Rhine, Germany, where he was born on July 10, 1831, being the third of a family of four sons born to the marriage of Christoph and Elizabeth (Suess) Kammerer. The

former was born in Germany on December 25, 1797, and died there in the month of November, 1857, having been a tailor by trade. The mother was born in 1800 and died in 1858, her children being named as follows: Frederick (who died in Germany in 1874), William (who is a tailor in his native land), Karl H., and August (who lives in Germany and follows the occupation of a dyer), Karl H. Kammerer obtained a common-school education, and for two years and seven months served in the regular military service of Germany. At the age of twenty-seven years he began working for himself, and tilled the soil in the "fatherland" until his removal to America in 1868. He first settled in Richardson County, Neb., but after remaining there eleven years he came to Nuckolls County, and purchased 160 acres of prairie land, where he now lives. By industry and good management he has his land in a fine state of cultivation, and well improved with excellent buildings and other general improvements, among which may be mentioned an excellent vineyard of 400 plants. Since coming to America he has been a loyal subject of "Uncle Sam," and has identified himself with the Republican party, and has held the position of school director in his home district for the past five years. He was married in Germany on November 25, 1857, to Miss Christina Roesch, and unto their union seven children were born: Christina (wife of August Seower), Lisette (wife of Philip Werner), William (who is a bachelor, and is farming in California), Charles (who is a blacksmith, of Thayer County, Neb.), Philip, August (who is lock-maker of Germany), and Christian (who resides in Richardson County). The mother of these children died on April 17, 1871, in Richardson County, and Mr. Kammerer remained a widower for two years, then marrying Miss Wilhelmina Last, a native of Prussia, born in 1844. She came to America in October, 1870, and her union with Mr. Kammerer has resulted in the birth of the following children: Anna, Lina, Otto, Albert, Elwina, Paul, Edwin and Emma. The family are members of the Lutheran Church, and are among the highly respected residents of the community in which they reside. Mr. Kammerer expects to make this State his future home.

George Kammermeyer, farmer and breeder of thoroughbred Clydesdale horses, Superior, Neb. To the stock industry of the various townships in the county must be given a large share of credit for the reputation which Nuckolls County enjoys as a wealthy, progressive community. And to those leading men who have contributed so materially in the building up of this reputation should be extended the sincere thanks and good will of the persons who have been benefited by their course. Prominent in all movements relating to stock, Mr. Kammermeyer has already become so well known that nothing need be said by us as to his reliability and responsibility. He came from LaSalle County, Ill., in 1888, and in connection with farming is also a breeder of thoroughbred Clydesdale horses, and is associated with Charles Miller, of LaSalle County, Ill. Mr. Kammermeyer has in this county three draft Hambletonian stallions, twenty-eight brood mares, nine pure breds and others of high grade. He owns a section of land in Sections 18 and 20, and has a good two-story residence, and substantial barns, outbuildings, etc. He was born in May, 1854, and is the son of Henry and Caroline (Cribbs) Kammermeyer, the former born and reared in Germany, but emigrated to the United States from France, and was married in Putnam County, Ill. George Kammermeyer was educated in the high school of Peru, Ill., and also took a business course in Decatur. He was married in Illinois in 1880 to Miss Alice E. Johnson, who was born in Ohio, but reared in Illinois, and who is a graduate from the State Normal. Four children are the result of this union: Jessie A., George R., Robert H. and Caroline F. Mr. Kammermeyer is president of the Farmers' Alliance, is P. G. M. of the I. O. O. F., and in his political views affiliates with the Republican party. Mrs. Kammermeyer is a member of the Congregational Church of Garfield Township.

Joseph Warren Keifer, Jr., merchant, farmer and stockman, Elora, Nuckolls County. In reviewing the lives of prominent citizens of Nuckolls County, the name of Joseph Warren Keifer, Jr., is justly given an enviable position, for it is diffi-

cult to find any one more entitled to honorable mention, or who possesses to a greater extent the esteem of his acquaintances. He was born in Springfield, Ohio, May 13, 1861, and is a son of Hon. Joseph Warren and Eliza (Stout) Keifer, both of whom were born in Clarke County, Ohio, the former a lawyer by profession. The father resides in Springfield, and is well known throughout the country as an able lawyer. He takes a deep interest in politics, and has served in many offices of honor and trust. He has been a member of the Ohio Senate, and he was elected to the House of Representatives of the United States from the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio for four terms, and he served four years in the War of the Rebellion, reaching the rank of major-general of volunteers. J. W. Keifer, Jr., grew to manhood in Springfield, Ohio, receiving a liberal education in the high schools and colleges of his native State, and after completing his education engaged in business. He was his father's private secretary for two years, during the time he was speaker of the House of Representatives in Washington. In 1883 he came to Nebraska, and located in Nuckolls County on land west of Superior, which he broke out and made into a good farm, on which he resided for about two years, then moved to his present place which is located on the south side of the Republican River, just opposite Bostwick. He and his father own and control about 5,000 acres of good tillable land, most of it being bottom lands on the Republican River, and here Mr. Keifer, Jr., is extensively engaged in cattle raising, grazing, feeding and shipping, turning off about twenty ear-loads of cattle and ten of hogs each year. The post-office of Elora was established in 1882, and in 1885 Mr. Keifer, becoming its owner, was appointed postmaster, and he still holds the position and serves as a justice of the peace. In connection with his business, he has a grocery store with a good country trade. In his political views he is a Republican, but does not aspire to office. Mr. Keifer was married at Ripley, Ohio, October 20, 1886, to Miss Julia Lowry, a daughter of William Lowry (deceased). She was born in Ohio, and received her education in her na-

tive State at Ripley and Cincinnati. To this union were born two children: Joseph William and Lucy Stout. Mr. Keifer and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church at Superior, and Mr. Keifer belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P.

Joseph M. Kern is a tiller of the soil in Nuckolls County, Neb., having moved here in 1881, and his farm is situated near Superior. He was born in Lehigh County, Pa., April 3, 1846, and is a son of William and Mary Ann (Klein) Kern, who were also born in that State and county. After their marriage the father was engaged in farming and merchandising in his native State, after which he moved west to Missouri (in 1877), and settled on a farm in Atchison County, where, in addition to tilling the soil, he was engaged in raising and dealing in cattle. At the expiration of five years he moved to Cummings County, taking up his abode in Nuckolls County three years later, which place has since continued to be his home. As Mr. Kern is now about seventy years of age, the business is attended to mostly by a son, who tills the soil and deals in cattle and hogs. Of a family of three sons and three daughters born to them, Joseph M. is the second in order of birth, and his youth and early manhood were spent in his native county. His advantages for acquiring knowledge were beyond the ordinary, and in addition to attending the common schools, was graduated from an excellent academy, thus being well fitted to fight his own way in the world. Being enamored of a professional life, he entered the Pennsylvania Dental College, from which he graduated, and the seven years succeeding his graduation he practiced his profession in Allentown. This sedentary employment, however, began gradually to undermine his health, and he was thus compelled to seek more active employment, and returned to his old home in Lehigh County to resume farming. This received his time and attention up to 1877, when he removed with his family to Missouri, and for the following four years was a successful agriculturist of Atchison County, stock-raising and feeding also receiving a goodly portion of his attention. In 1880 he purchased him a farm near Superior,

Neb., moved thither in 1881, but did not settle on the farm until 1886. His land now amounts to 320 acres, and he has about 200 under cultivation, furnished with a comfortable residence, fair out-buildings, wind-pumps, and a flourishing young orchard. He ships from one to four car-loads of cattle, and over 100 head of hogs annually, and in connection with this business has become well and favorably known to the people of the county, both socially and as a business man. He is a Democrat, has served as township assessor, and has been a member of the school board of Superior. He was married in Pennsylvania, February 21, 1870, his wife being Miss Clara George, born, reared and educated in Lehigh County, and a daughter of John George. To them a family of six children have been born: Edgar, Bessie, Gertrude, Harry, Mary and Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Kern are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are among the leading citizens of this section of the county.

James Clayborne Kincannon is one of Nuckolls County's most progressive citizens, and he has done much, in a quiet, unassuming way, to advance the farming and stock-raising interests in this community. He is a native of Tennessee, where his birth occurred on April 25, 1825, and is the second of ten children born to his parents (the children all sons): George C. (was one of the old "49rs," and died in California in 1850), James Clayborne, William Reed (died in California), Andrew J. (died in Wisconsin, was a farmer by occupation), Louis T. (died of consumption in Wisconsin), Matthew C. (married Miss Baughn, a native of Pennsylvania, and now resides in Wisconsin, engaged as pilot on the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers), John S. (deceased), Marion M. (died from exposure during the war), and the next are twins—Edgar Calvin and Edwin Scott (both of whom are living and residents of Wisconsin, the former a farmer and the latter a lumberman). The father of these children was of Irish and the mother of English descent. The father was a tanner by trade. James Clayborne Kincannon's education was obtained in the old subscription schools of the South, and he very distinctly remembers the school-master coming around with an article and asking

his father how many scholars he would sign. At the age of twenty-two our subject started out as a farmer, having been reared to that occupation, principally, although he had followed other pursuits in different States until April 25, 1874, when he came to Nebraska. He was married to Miss Frances E. Palmer, a native of Kentucky, on November 28, 1846, and eight children were the fruits of this union—four sons and four daughters: Susan B. (deceased), George H. (deceased), James W. (married Miss Mary Sowers, a native of Ohio, who died on October 14, 1889; he resides in Nuckolls County, Neb., and is engaged in tilling the soil), Sarah Frances (married Philip P. Michael, a farmer, and now resides in Nuckolls County), Hattie Virginia (married Will T. Felton, a farmer, and now resides at Edgar, Neb.), John B. (married Miss Ella Devore, a native of Illinois, and is now engaged in cultivating the soil in Nuckolls County), Hannah M. (married Henry W. Kineson, a native of Ohio, and a farmer, and now resides in Nuckolls County), and Frank E. (the youngest of the family, who married Miss Nora Belle Smith, a native of Wisconsin, and who is now engaged in agricultural pursuits). Mr. Kincannon has always identified himself with the Democratic party, and supported the Jeffersonian principles until the fall of 1889, since which time he has been a stanch Prohibitionist. He has been school treasurer in Sherman Precinct for twelve years, and occupied a like position for the same length of time in Wisconsin. He is sixty-five years of age, but is hale and hearty, and to-day he can go into the field and make a full hand at any hard labor. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and is confident that if the farmers hold together the Alliance will accomplish what they started out to perform. When Mr. Kincannon first came to Nuckolls County he homesteaded some raw prairie land, with only five acres broken and scarcely an out-building on the place. The good, substantial buildings now to be seen are the fruits of his own industry, frugality and uprightness. Mr. and Mrs. Kincannon have been members of the United Brethren Church for thirty-three years, and have always been liberal contributors to the same. They

expect to make Nuckolls County their home the balance of their days, and are possessed of enough of this world's goods to make them very comfortable.

Lorenzo R. King, farmer and stock-raiser, Beaver Township. Mr. King is so well and so favorably known in this section as to need no formal introduction to the many readers of this volume. He was ushered into the world in Livingston County, N. Y., on November 5, 1843, being a son of M. A. and Phoebe (Doud) King. His father was born in Vermont, and there passed his youthful days, but in early manhood he went to New York and was there married to Miss Phoebe Doud, a native of New York. Mr. King, Sr., tilled the soil in Livingston County with varying success until 1855, when he left the "Empire State" for the far west, and made his home in Clayton County, Iowa, until his death which occurred in about 1875. His wife survived him several years and received her final summons in Nebraska. The infancy and boyhood of our subject was passed in his native county and State, but at the age of twelve years he accompanied his parents to Iowa and there grew to mature years. In his younger days he learned the mason and plasterer's trade, at which he subsequently worked. The breaking out of the late war found him a young man of eighteen years, burning with patriotic fires, and ready to defend the Union against its enemies. He enlisted in October, 1861, first in the Fifth Missouri, in which he served for two years, then veteranized into the Twelfth Missouri Cavalry, and served until the close of the war, being discharged in April, 1866. He was in the Hood campaign, and the Wilson raid in Georgia, also fighting Gen. Forrest in Mississippi. In 1865 he was sent into the west against the Indians, and was discharged at Leavenworth in April, 1866, after a long and honorable service of nearly five years. He served as a non-commissioned officer. Upon receiving his discharge he returned to Iowa, and after a short visit to his parents, went to Lincoln, Neb., where he worked at his trade, subsequently going to Fillmore. He taught school there in the winter and worked at his trade in the summer, from which place

he came to Nuckolls County in 1880, and located 160 acres of raw prairie land situated on the Republican River, and about one and one-half miles from Superior, and commenced improvements with a view to making a comfortable home, and in this has succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations, for he is now the owner of one of the finest farms in this section. His farm is crossed by two lines of railroad, the Missouri Pacific Railroad running to Hastings, and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, running to Denver. He has a comfortable one-story residence, sheds, etc., a nice native grove, a good orchard of selected fruits, and everything tending to make up the home of a prosperous and well-to-do farmer. Mr. King was married in Fillmore County, Neb., in May, 1877, to Miss Belle Bair, a native of Pennsylvania. Her parents, Samuel and Eleanor (French) Bair, were both born in the "Keystone State," but came west when she was a little girl of four years, first locating in Illinois, where they spent three years, and then moving to Fillmore County, Neb., where Mrs. King grew to womanhood and obtained her education. Five children have come to brighten their home and are named as follows: George Ray, Harlan H., Adda B., Alma E. and Shirley M. Mr. King is highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends, and socially belongs to the M. W. A. and the G. A. R.

Thomas C. Laird was born in Union County, Pa., in 1840, being a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Clingan) Laird, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. [For history see sketch of William Laird, of Webster County.] When he was about nine years of age he went with his parents to Illinois, they locating on a farm in Stephenson County, where our subject grew to manhood. The breaking out of the late war found him an enthusiastic young man of twenty-one, and in 1861 he enlisted in Company G, Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry, as a private, and served through the entire war, receiving his discharge as first lieutenant, to which position he had been promoted for meritorious conduct, in 1866. Among the principal engagements in which he was interested are Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Metamora, Vicksburg,

Jackson, siege and capture of Mobile. At the close of the war he returned to his home in Stephenson County, Ill., and farmed until 1870, when he came to Nebraska. He first located in Webster County, on a homestead of 160 acres of land, in Section 2, Oak Creek Township, and lived on it until 1887, during this time being engaged quite extensively in farming and stock-raising. In 1887 he came to Lawrence, Nuckolls County, and embarked in the grocery business with varying success for two years, and then he was appointed to the position of assistant postmaster of Lawrence, which position he still efficiently fills. He was married in 1871 to Miss Ellen M., a daughter of Robert and Ann Bell, *nee* McCool, and their married life has been blessed in the birth of three children: Lee, Lloyd and Lola. Mrs. Laird was born in Illinois in 1848. Mr. Laird belongs to C. A. Arthur Post No. 242, G. A. R., at Lawrence, and in politics has always supported the men and measures of the Republican party.

L. C. Landis, agent for the Nye & Schneider Company, dealers in grain and stock, and E. W. Robinson, dealer in lumber and coal, Oak, Neb. Like a great many of the inhabitants of Nuckolls County, Mr. Landis hails from Iowa, where he was born, in Black Hawk County, in 1867. His parents were born in Somerset County, Pa., but in 1864 moved to Iowa, and their home is now in Waterloo, that State, where the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood, obtaining a good education in the common schools, which was supplemented by two years at Western College, Toledo, Iowa. He wielded the birch very successfully in Black Hawk County for two years, and then came to Thayer County, Neb., and taught school for one year. April 1, 1889, he took charge of the lumber business for Mr. Robinson, and subsequently became agent for the Nye & Schneider Company, and with the aid of an assistant handled about 250,000 bushels of corn from December 1, 1889, to May 1, 1890. He votes the Republican ticket, and is a member of the A. O. U. W. He is a conscientious, upright and intelligent young business man, possessing foresight to a marked degree, which coupled with good habits and business ability, is

bound to carry him through the world and land him on one of the top rounds of the ladder of success.

Oscar P. Lowe, farmer and stock-raiser, Nora, Neb. It is doubtless owing entirely to the industrious and persevering manner with which Mr. Lowe has adhered to the pursuit of agriculture and stock-raising that he has risen to such a substantial position in farm affairs in this county. His life has not been one of very great experience outside of ordinary channels, but, nevertheless, it has been one of ceaseless activity and hard, laborious work. He was born in Atchison County, Mo., October 14, 1860, and was one of the following children born to his parents: Mary (deceased), John W. (married Miss Viola Snook, a native of Illinois, and is now engaged in farming in Atchison County, Mo.), Oscar P., Melissa (deceased), Charles (deceased), Katie (deceased), an infant (deceased), Preston R. (married Miss Katie Cloepfield, and is now engaged in farming in Atchison County, Mo.), Hattie (resides in Missouri), an infant (deceased), Arthur (resides on the old homestead in Missouri with his parents), and Le Roy (is a farmer and resides on the old homestead). The father of these children is a native of Michigan, and has followed agricultural pursuits all his life. He is living on the old homestead and is sixty-five years of age. The mother was born in Kentucky, and is now living at the age of fifty-two years. Oscar P. Lowe received a good education in the graded schools and then entered the State Normal University at Peru, Neb., where he remained for four years. He completed a classical course and admirably fitted himself for the practical details of life. He engaged in merchandising at the age of nineteen years at Logan, Iowa, and continued in this for about two years, meeting with good success. Mr. Lowe married in Atchison County, Mo., February 8, 1882, Miss Loretta Klans (a native of Missouri, born December 16, 1860), and to them were born three children—two sons and a daughter: Charles Earl, Clyde M. and Verna A. Mr. Lowe is a Democrat in politics, and cast his first presidential vote for Grover Cleveland. He is interested in educational matters, and holds the

position of director in his home district. He has been tendered many positions of trust in his precinct, but has modestly declined them all. He advocated the principles of the Farmers' Alliance, and thinks that they will accomplish much good if they do not attempt too much. He was brought up under the instruction of good religious parents, and as a consequence respects all religious institutions. Mr. Lowe is the owner of 520 acres of fine land, all improved, and is now erecting a fine residence, which, when finished, will cost over \$2,000. He is a stock-raiser of decided merit and makes a specialty of Poland China hogs, also fine blooded horses, some of which are noted for speed.

Oliver Lowry is one of the substantial agriculturists and stock men of Nuckolls County, and was born in Essex County, Vt., September 25, 1827. His father, James Lowry, was born in Vermont, and there grew to manhood, subsequently marrying Miss Rebecca Pratt, who was also a Vermonter by birth. Mr. Lowry was a carpenter by trade, and worked on the first railroad ever built in the United States—the Camden & Amboy Railroad. In 1834 the family moved to New York, remaining there but a short time, the same year locating in Cass County, Mich., where he followed contracting and building until 1856, and then moved on to a farm in Jackson County, Iowa, on which he resided until his death in 1864. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving on the Northern frontier, under his uncle, Capt. Lowry. Oliver Lowry grew to manhood in Michigan. In 1853 he journeyed overland to California, and after six months spent on the road, he arrived at the mines without any serious mishap. Here he did carpenter work for some two years, and then returned via Panama to his home in Michigan after an absence of three years. He was engaged in blacksmithing until the fall of the same year, and then went with his father to Iowa and settled on a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits in that State until 1884, when he came to Nebraska and purchased the place on which he now resides, five miles below Guide Rock. This farm comprises 148 acres on the Republican River, the most of it being bottom

land, and is a very desirable property. When Mr. Lowry first purchased this land it was mostly raw prairie, but to-day it is one of the finest farms in this part of the county. There is a beautiful frame residence and barns for stock and grain. Our subject devotes himself to farming and stock-raising, at which he is doing unusually well. He is a man who has done much toward the development of the county, and is deserving of the esteem in which he is held. He affiliates with the Republican party, but does not aspire to official honors. Mr. Lowry was united in marriage in Jackson County, Iowa, December 25, 1860, to Dorothea Van Doran, a native of New York and partly reared and educated in that State, but who moved to Jackson County, Iowa, with her father, Jacob Van Doran, when a young lady. To this union have been born three children: Charles, William, and Harriet, nine years of age.

A. M. Lunt, farmer and stock-feeder, Section 28, Town 1, Range 6, west, Superior, Neb. If industry, hard work and ceaseless activity, united with a strong and determined perseverance, can accomplish anything in this world, then Mr. Lunt is bound to succeed, for in him are to be found the characteristics mentioned, and, indeed, he is deserving of more than ordinary credit for his career thus far in life. His birth occurred at Portland, Me., in 1845, and when fourteen years of age he came to Stephenson County, Ill., and there resided until 1870. Previous to this he sailed from Boston to San Francisco, Cal., and from there to Calcutta. While on this voyage the vessel in which he sailed was wrecked and he had a narrow escape from death. In 1870 he emigrated to Republic County, Kas., where he resided until October, 1889, when he came to Nuckolls County, Neb., and there purchased one-half section of land. He has a fine residence, good substantial out-buildings, and is especially engaged in the feeding of hogs and cattle. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army in Company H, Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry, and served five months. He was married, in 1868, to Miss Millie Clark, daughter of Nathan and Elizabeth (Falkner) Clark, natives of Canada, who had moved to Illinois at an early day. Five

children were the fruits of this union: Elmer, Alta, William, Bessie and Annie, all living. Mr. Lunt is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge at Hardy, and has at all times supported the Republican party.

Charles F. McGrew, attorney, Superior, Neb. As a leading citizen of Superior in its professional, business and social life, lending eminent strength to its bar, tone to its finances and grace to its society, Mr. McGrew commands attention from the pen of the historian who would wish to do this city justice. He was born in Henry County, Iowa, on July 30, 1856, and is the son of Simon B. and Ura (Marsh) McGrew, natives of Westmoreland County, Pa., the grandson of James B. and Isabella McGrew, natives also of Westmoreland County, Pa., and the great-grandson of John McGrew, a native of Scotland, who emigrated to America in about 1738 and located in Pennsylvania or Maryland. The father of our subject was born on October 22, 1810, and the mother on February 14, 1813. The latter was the daughter of Abner and Martha (Painter) Marsh. The parents of Charles F. McGrew were married in their native county on May 30, 1833, and to them were born seven children, of whom he was the youngest, and four of whom are now living. The mother died on October 15, 1865, after which the father was married on December 5, 1867, to Mrs. Elizabeth McDaniels, who is still living. Her husband, however, died on October 18, 1874. Before Charles F. McGrew was a year old his parents moved to Linn County, Kas., and resided on a farm in that county for seven years. In 1864 they returned to Iowa, locating at Wyoming, Jones County, where Charles F. passed his youth and received his early education, completing his studies at the high school at that place when eighteen years of age. He then engaged in teaching as a temporary pursuit, and continued at this during the greater part of the time for four years, being principal, during two years, of the Olin, Iowa, graded schools. While thus engaged he devoted his leisure time to the study of law, being determined to fit himself for the legal profession, and also while serving in the capacity of teacher he was partially engaged in civil engineer-

ing, having received a knowledge of that profession from his father in early life. He served one term as surveyor of Jones County, Iowa, having been elected to that position in the fall of 1879, and was admitted to the bar on March 5, 1879, at Anamosa, Iowa. On March 12, 1880, he located in Alexandria, Neb., as the partner of Hon. S. J. Alexander, then secretary of State, and there he was engaged in the practice of law, and the banking business for five years. In the fall of 1883 he purchased the Thayer County Bank at Alexandria, organized it as a State bank in the spring of 1884, and his connection with it continued until 1885, when he sold out and also resigned his law practice at that place. In the spring of 1885 he removed to Ellsworth, Kas., where for two years he gave his attention to the law business and to banking. Soon after locating in Ellsworth he organized the Central National Bank, but sold his interest in it in 1887, and owing to impaired health he spent the following winter in California. Returning to Nebraska, he resided temporarily at Lincoln, and devoted his time to banking interests. In January, 1889, he located in Superior, where he has ever since been actively engaged in the practice of law, and of which city he is now a leading attorney. He is still, also, largely engaged in the banking business, having a connection at this time with several banks in Kansas and Nebraska, among which are the State Bank of Lawrence and the State Bank of Bloomington, of which banks he is president. Mr. McGrew was married on November 20, 1879, to Miss Caddie L. Miller, daughter of G. W. Miller, now of Lincoln, and their marriage has resulted in the birth of two children: Roscoe G. (born September 12, 1880) and Alice Cary (born November 19, 1889). Mr. McGrew is a Knight Templar. In politics he is a devoted member of the Republican party. As a lawyer he is possessed of much ability, and he is now recognized as one of the leading members of the Nuckolls County bar. Mr. McGrew is a fair sample of what thrift, energy and enterprise will do for young men who identify themselves with the growing West. But a little over ten years ago he came to Nebraska with nothing but his determination to win, and un-

bounded faith in the future of his adopted State, and his accumulation of wealth is but a reward for his labors. Such a reward awaits every one who will take the same course that the subject of this sketch has in casting their future with this rapidly developing and wealth-producing section of the great West.

W. B. McIntire, merchant, Superior, Neb. The trade in general dry goods has long constituted one of the leading features in the commercial pursuits of our country, and in this line in Superior is found a thoroughly representative house in that conducted by Mr. McIntire. This gentleman is also the junior member of the firm of McIntire Bros., who have a very large dry goods establishment at Rock Island, Ill. He was born in Wilton, Iowa, on August 25, 1859, and is the son of Robert A. and Josephine F. (Cooper) McIntire, both natives of Crawford County, Pa., born near Meadowville. The paternal grandfather, James D. McIntire, who, together with his brother, John McIntire, served in the War of 1812, died in 1880, but John is still living, is ninety-seven years of age and is one of the few survivors of the War of 1812. His home is near Meadowville, Pa. The McIntire family are of Irish descent. The mother of our subject was the daughter of James and Mary Cooper, both natives of Crawford County, Pa. She was married about 1850 to Robert A. McIntire, and to them were born five children, W. B. being the fourth in order of birth, and all now living. The parents are now residing in Muscatine, Iowa. W. B. McIntire was reared in his native town and graduated from the high school at that place when seventeen years of age, after which he spent one year in the Iowa State University at Iowa City. When nineteen years of age he accepted a clerkship in a general store at Wilton, the store owned by Bacon & McIntire, the latter being his brother. In 1880 Mr. Bacon sold out to his partner, after which our subject clerked for his brother, C. C. McIntire, until 1887. In the meantime, in 1883, C. C. McIntire sold his store in Wilton, and in the same year purchased a large dry goods establishment at Rock Island, Ill. In this store W. B. clerked until 1887, when

he formed a partnership with his brother, and under the name of McIntire Bros., the firm established a large dry goods store in Superior, Neb., which has been conducted ever since by W. B. McIntire, C. C. McIntire remaining in charge of the store at Rock Island. On September 27, 1889, Mr. McIntire was married to Miss Georgia Terry, of Wilton, Iowa. He and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. McIntire is an enterprising and successful young man, and is very popular in both his social and business relations. The dry goods establishment which he and his brother established in Superior is the largest in that city, and one among the best stores of the kind in this section of the State.

Isaiah H. Miller, farmer and stock-raiser, Davenport, Neb. Among the many successful farmers and stock-raisers of Nuckolls County who owe their nativity to the Keystone State, none, perhaps, have been more prominently identified with the county's interests than has Mr. Miller. He was born December 5, 1849, and was the youngest of seven children born to the marriage of his parents. His father was also a native of Pennsylvania, born about 1814, and was married to Miss Heinbaugh, a native also of Pennsylvania. He was a farmer by occupation. Their children were named as follows: Caroline (married John Weiner, a farmer, and now resides in Pennsylvania), Harriet (married J. Sipe, and now resides in Pennsylvania), Jonas (married Miss Wable, and now resides in Pennsylvania), Daniel (deceased), Catherine (deceased), J. H. (married a lady from Pennsylvania, and now resides in that State, engaged in lumbering) and Isaiah. The latter received a limited education in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and commenced life for himself at the age of nineteen years. One year later he emigrated to Carroll County, Ill., where he remained for one summer, and then went to Richardson County, Neb., in about 1870, where he tilled the soil. From there he went to Nuckolls County, and entered 160 acres of land, by purchase, where he immediately began to make improvements. He now has a fine residence and excellent barns, out-buildings, etc. On March 4, 1875, his marriage to Miss H. E. Wable, a native

of Pennsylvania, was consummated, and to them have been born five children—two sons and three daughters: May (aged twelve years), Willie (eight years), Edna (five years), Earl (two years) and an infant named Alma (the baby of the home). Mr. Miller is a Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant. He is not active in politics, being deeply interested in his duties as a farmer, but he always exercises his right of franchise. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and his wife is an ardent member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Miller expects to spend the remainder of his days in Nebraska, surrounded by all the comforts which a life of hard, earnest work has accumulated around him.

John A. Miller, merchant, Superior, Neb. Among the most skilled and reliable merchants of the city is the firm of J. A. Miller & Co., dealers in clothing and gents' furnishing goods. Mr. Miller was born in Allegheny County, Pa., on February 24, 1852, and is the son of Robert and Elizabeth (Woodburn) Miller, both natives also of Allegheny County, Pa., the former born in 1807, and the latter about 1814. Their union resulted in the birth of twelve children, only four of whom are living. The father died in 1886, but the mother still survives and resides in Rogers, Ark. John A. Miller was but five years of age when his parents removed from Pennsylvania to Henderson County, Ill., and there he resided on a farm until fifteen years of age. In 1867 the family removed to Audubon County, Iowa, and there the father died. At twenty years of age, John A. Miller went to Colorado, and the following three years were passed prospecting in that State and Utah, Oregon and Nevada Territories. Returning to Iowa, he embarked in the clothing business at Audubon, and in 1882 engaged in the same business at Coon Rapids, Iowa, continuing the same for four years. He was married in Coon Rapids, on April 2, 1884, to Miss Sarah M. Goodhue, a native of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and to them have been born two children: Freeda Althea and Herbert A., both living. In August, 1886, Mr. Miller came to Superior, where he has resided ever since, and of which city he is now a leading business man. Here he em-

barked in the clothing and gents' furnishing business, and he and his partner, Mr. E. J. Smith, now have the largest and finest store of that kind in the city. Mr. Miller is a member of the K. of P. and the M. W. A.

Hastings J. Milner is a native of New York, and was born in Onondaga County, September 9, 1835. His father, William Milner, was also born in New York, and there grew to manhood and married Miss Lucy Gillett, a native of the same place. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and worked at that trade all his life. The family moved to Ohio in 1835, locating in Medina County, and resided there for twenty years, in 1855 removing to Iowa, settling in Wyoming, where Mr. Milner worked on the bench until his death in 1880, his wife dying the same year. Although a New Yorker by birth, Mr. Milner recollects very little about his birthplace, as his parents moved from that place to Ohio, while he was still an infant. He grew to manhood in Medina County, Ohio, and in 1855 removed with his parents to Iowa. He located on a farm near Wyoming, and engaged in tilling the soil until the outbreak of the war, when he enlisted (in August, 1862) in Company K, Twenty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served his country until he was discharged for disability, in February, 1863. He then returned to his home in Iowa, and engaged in farming and stock-raising up to 1872. In the spring of that year he moved to Nebraska and first located in Webster County, where he farmed for a few years, and then purchased his present property, consisting of eighty acres of good tillable land, with sixty acres under cultivation. On this he has erected a neat one-story frame dwelling, a good barn, sheds, etc., and with a good well and wind-pump, he is afforded every facility for attending to stock, in the raising of which he is extensively engaged. He has a good bearing orchard on his place, comprising about 100 trees. Mr. Milner has been married three times. First, in Medina County, Ohio, at the age of nineteen years, in September, 1854, to Miss Martha Weaver, a native of Medina County, and a daughter of M. Weaver, who died in June, 1864, leaving three little children motherless. In Janu-

ary, 1866, in Jones County, Iowa, Mr. Milner was again united in matrimony to Mrs. Melissa (Johnson) Bryan, a widow, by whom he became the father of two children; one of them died in infancy, and the other at the age of ten years. Mrs. Milner died in the fall of 1885, and on March 10, 1887, in Ray County, Mo., Mr. Milner's marriage with Miss Matilda Hannah, daughter of J. J. Hannah, of that county, took place, and they are now the parents of a son, Harvey J. Mrs. Milner was born in Champaign County, Ill., and was reared in Ray County, Mo. She is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mr. Milner belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and to the I. O. O. F.

Daniel Carlton Mills, farmer and stock-raiser, Angus, Neb. A man of marked character and more than ordinary prominence in the material affairs of Nuckolls County is Mr. Mills, who has followed the occupation of farming all his life. His birth occurred May 8, 1844, and is one of ten children born to his parents, who were natives of New York, the father born in 1813 and the mother in 1823. They were married in 1842 and the mother, whose maiden name was Mary Miller, is living at the present time. The children were named as follows: Daniel C., Elizabeth (married George Parker, a native of New York, and resides in that State), Henry J. (resides in New York, and married Miss Mary Dart, who is deceased; his third marriage was to Miss Hannah Ingersoll, a native of New York; he is a farmer by occupation), Phoebe (resides in New York and is the wife of David Whittaker, who is a horticulturist by occupation), Mary Delphine (resides in New York and married Monroe Brewster, who is a stone-mason and plasterer by occupation), Gertrude S. (resides in New York and was the wife of George Douglas, a carpenter by trade, who was drowned by accident in the fall of 1889), Emma Augusta (residing in Edgar, Clay County, Neb., wife of B. W. Ghent, a locomotive engineer and machinist; Mr. Ghent is a resident of Edgar, Neb., and held the important position of master mechanic of the Sante Fe Southern Railroad), Byron Stuben (residing on the old homestead in New York and was married to Miss Elsie Christler, a native of New York),

John (died at the age of three years) and Carrie D. (resides in Philadelphia, Pa., and is attending school at that place). Daniel Carlton Mills was married to Miss Clara D. Dart, a native of New York, on the 20th of February, 1867, and to them was born one child, Charles Henry, who resides on the home place. The latter was born on the 20th of January, 1868, and received a good common-school education. He has chosen agricultural pursuits as his occupation through life. Mrs. Mills' parents were natives of New York State, and her mother is now living. Mr. Mills and his wife received their education in the common schools of New York, and in 1872 they left that State and took a soldier's claim of 160 acres, in Clay County, Neb. They afterward sold this claim and in 1877 located on his present farm, which then consisted of eighty acres. This has since been increased to 360 acres, and it is all under cultivation. The nearest market at that time was at Crete, Neb., a distance of sixty miles, and Mr. Mills gives some graphic accounts of his trips to and from that point. He enlisted in Hammondsport, N. Y., in Company H, One Hundred and Eighty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, Fifth Army Corps, First Division, and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, after being mustered in at Elmira, N. Y., in 1863. He participated in the following battles: Weldon's Raid, Va., Hatchie's Run, Va., Gravel Run and Five Forks. Mr. Mills was knocked senseless, by the passing of a shell, at Gravel Run. He was also at Boydtown Plank Roads, which was quite a battle, and where the Unionists captured a number of prisoners. He was present at the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and was also present at the grand review held at Washington City. After being honorably discharged at Elmira, N. Y., he returned home, and has since been engaged in tilling the soil. He is a Republican in politics, and his first presidential vote was for Abraham Lincoln, having cast his vote for that president while serving in the Union army. He has filled the office of assessor, and has been tendered other offices but has declined. He was the first justice of the peace in the town of Edgar, Neb., and married the first couple in that town.

He has been an honored member of George H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., at Nelson, Neb. He and Mrs. Mills are members of the Evangelical Church and are actively engaged in the Sunday-school work. They are possessed of abundant means, have a well-improved farm of 360 acres, a good residence, stock of all kinds, and are prepared to pass the remainder of their days in peace and plenty.

Albert W. Mock has been postmaster of Nelson, Nuckolls County, Neb., since February 28, 1890, but as he employs a deputy, he can devote his time and attention to his trade, that of contracting and building. His birth occurred on December 11, 1856, in Bedford County, Pa., his parents being Josiah and Rachel (Whysong) Mock, the former of whom was also born in Bedford County, Pa., his birth occurring in 1835. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army, afterward re-enlisted for three years more, or during the war, and was taken prisoner at Chapin's Farm in September, 1864, being confined in Libby and Salisbury prisons for seven months. He was paroled, and eleven days after reaching the Union lines he died, March, 1865, from the effects of want and starvation while in prison, his life, like so many others, being given for his country. He was a member of Company K, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and his remains were taken to his old home and were there laid in their last resting place. Politically, he was always a staunch Republican, and for many years he had been an earnest member of the German Reformed Church. His wife is also a Pennsylvanian, born several years after Mr. Mock, and is now living with her second husband. Her union with Mr. Mock resulted in the birth of two children: Mary Jane and Albert W. The latter spent his youth and early manhood on a farm in his native county, but has lived apart from his mother ever since he was eight years of age, his early home being with his grandfather. He served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, and after becoming the thorough master of this business, he went to Michigan, and on March 1, 1878, came to Nelson, Neb. His trade has received his attention ever since, and he is now considered one of the

foremost contractors and builders in the county. He has for some time been associated in business with J. C. Scheurer. He is a most genial gentleman, attends strictly to business, and is a man whom all respect and esteem. In 1881 Miss Lucinda Fickes became his wife, she being a Bedford County Pennsylvanian, born in 1857. They have two sons: John and Charles (both of whom are bright and interesting children). Mr. Mock is a Republican, and socially, is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. F. & A. M.

Theodore J. Moelle, land agent, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on Section 31, St. Stephen's Precinct. If the old country had not contributed to the population of the new, Nebraska would not have reached its present high state of development. Germany has furnished her full quota of excellent men, and among them Mr. Moelle, a resident of Nuckolls County, honored and respected by all his acquaintances. He was born in Arnsberg, Westphalia, Prussia, June 1, 1841. His father, Charles Moelle, born June 11, 1805, at Hamm, Westphalia, moved to Arnsberg in 1832, served nine years in the German army, and was then, on account of meritorious conduct and strict attention to duty, promoted from time to time from an inferior to a very important position as an officer in the appellate court as Rechnungsrath, which position he held until his death, October 13, 1889. He married Miss Henrietta Messman, who survives him and makes her home in Arnsberg. They celebrated their golden wedding May 7, 1883. Theodore J. Moelle grew to manhood in his native country, and, like all German boys, received a good education in his native language at a gymnasium, and also took a course at a mining college, after which he became foreman and paymaster of a coal mine. He was drafted into the army in the fall of 1864, during the German-Denmark war, but was discharged in four weeks on account of disability. In the spring of 1865 Mr. Moelle emigrated to America and landed in New York on April 14, the day President Lincoln was assassinated, remaining there but a short time, and then coming through to Indianapolis, Ind., where he engaged in teaching. He taught for twelve years in different places, first

by Grand Rapids, then Peoria, St. Louis, Keokuk, and Chicago, and various other places. In November, 1877, he moved from Chicago to Nuckolls County, locating on railroad land near St. Stephen's, being the first to purchase railroad land in Nuckolls County, on which he resided until the winter of 1879, when, receiving the appointment of deputy county clerk, he made his home in Nelson for the four years he filled this office. In the spring of 1884 he returned to Germany to visit his parents and the scenes of his childhood, remaining there about six months. He had previously purchased a half section of land, and after his return he built a handsome residence, and in the fall of the same year moved on to his place. His farm comprises 320 acres of good tillable land, 150 of which are under the plow. He has a good comfortable residence, a good barn, and sheds for cattle, a wind-mill, a fine grove of 18,000 forest trees, and one of the best orchards in the county. His orchard contains 350 apple trees, 40 pear, 20 plum, 10 cherry, and about 400 grapevines. He has some twenty-nine varieties of pears, his being the finest collection of any in Nuckolls County, or perhaps in the State. Mr. Moelle was united in matrimonial bonds at Crown Point, Ind., September 10, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Blimm, daughter of Ira and Salome Blimm, both natives of Germany. She was born in New York State, but reared and educated in Indiana. Their union has been blessed in the birth of eight children—four sons and four daughters, viz.: Charles (a young man), Frank, Wilhelmina, Ottelia, Ferdinand, Henrietta, Aurelia, and Ludwig, an infant. Mr. Moelle has twice served as postmaster, and established the post office Arnsberg in honor of the beautiful ancient city in Westphalia. The last named office was held at his present residence for about two years, and was then moved to Mount Clare, a distance of two miles. Mr. Moelle and family are members of the Catholic Church. He is considered one of the most substantial farmers of Nuckolls County, and his accumulations are entirely the result of his own industry and good management.

T. C. Mongar, deputy sheriff, Nelson, Neb.
Mr. Mongar, the popular sheriff of this county, is

a native of Indiana, born in 1850, and his education was received in the common schools. At the age of twenty-one years he left Indiana and journeyed to Nebraska, locating in Dickson County, where he took a homestead and there made his home for four years. After this he returned to his native State and was married in Clark County, where he tarried one year and then returned to Nebraska. Two years later he went to Clarke County, Iowa, and worked in a mill until 1884, when he went to Huron, Dak., and after a residence there of one year returned to Iowa, where he again worked in a mill. He was then taken with inflammatory rheumatism and emigrated to Nelson, Neb., in 1887. He has been marshal of the town of Nelson, street commissioner, and has been deputy sheriff since the first of the year. He was the owner of a homestead which he sold in 1876, and is now the owner of a house and lot in this town. He is the father of three children: Josiah, Bessie and Goldie. Socially he is a member of the K. of P. His father, Josiah Mongar, was a native of New York and was a merchant at Taylor, of that State, for some time. Subsequently he became an attorney, and was also engaged in the hotel business at Winchester, Ind. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Miss Elizabeth Copestick, are now deceased. They were the parents of nine children, all now living. The paternal grandfather was a native of France.

Luther Moss, farmer and stock-raiser, Nelson, Neb. The agricultural interests of Liberty Township are ably represented by the subject of this sketch, a man whose entire life has been passed in the calling which now receives his attention. It was but natural, perhaps, that when it became necessary for him to start out in life he should choose agricultural pursuits as his calling, for his father, Charles Moss, was also a successful tiller of the soil, and as a consequence he was early initiated in the duties of the farm. Charles Moss was a native of Maryland, and was married to Miss Eliza Jane (Price) Moss, a native also of that State. In 1855 they moved to Marshall County, Ill., purchased land and made many improvements. There they reside at the present

time. Of the twelve children born to this union, Luther Moss was the second. He was educated in Marshall County, Ill., and commenced farming for himself in that State. He was married, on October 14, 1880, to Miss Mary Jane Vore, a native of the Buckeye State and the daughter of Thomas Clarkson and Sophiah C. (Aker) Vore, natives also of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Vore came to Illinois about 1866, settled in Marshall County, and in 1881 emigrated to Nuckolls County, Neb., where the father resides at the present time. In 1881 Mr. Moss came to Nuckolls County, purchased 120 acres of school land, erected a good frame house, planted an orchard, and has any amount of small fruit. He raises a great many peaches and has had small fruit for three years. He is an ardent Republican in his views and takes considerable interest in politics; is an ex-member of the school board and is active in educational matters. His three children are named as follows: Edmund Harrison, Nora Belle and Charles Thayer Clarkson. Mr. Moss has witnessed many changes in the country since his residence here and has seen the entire growth of Nelson. He built the second farm house in this part of the precinct, and is pleasantly situated six miles from the county-seat.

Lewis Nicholas, proprietor of a livery stable at Oak, Nuckolls County, though numbered among the younger business men of the community, is well and favorably known in connection with the interests which now occupy his attention. He was born in Putnam County, W. Va., April 20, 1866, his paternal grandparents being John and Margaret (Swope) Nicholas. Andrew Jackson and Felissia Anna (Foster) Nicholas, his parents, were married November 3, 1851. The father was born July 18, 1822, in Putnam County, W. Va., his wife's birth occurring in Lawrence County, Ohio, October 9, 1832. They had a family of six children, those besides Lewis being William A. (a Baptist minister of Guyandotte, W. Va.), Eliza (wife of Mahlan Johnson, a farmer of Virginia), Mary (wife of William A. Shanklin, a farmer of Virginia), Alice (now Mrs. Mathew Eggleston, of Virginia), and Thomas R. (a farmer of Nelson Precinct, this county). The parents are still living and hold

membership in the Baptist Church in Putnam County, W. Va. Andrew J. Nicholas entered the United States service in February, 1862, enlisting in Company G, Eleventh West Virginia Infantry, and being assigned to the Army of West Virginia. He participated in all the movements and engagements entered into by his regiment, including Winchester, Fisher's Hill, Petersburg and others, and was present at Lee's surrender. He was discharged at Richmond at the close of the war. Lewis spent his school days in his native State, receiving a common-school education, and at the age of seventeen began life for himself as a farmer, continuing that occupation in Virginia until coming to this county in the spring of 1886. After resuming agricultural pursuits for about three years, he directed his attention to the livery and feed business at Oak, where he now enjoys a liberal patronage, being provided with such an equipment as cannot but please those in need of good rigs. In politics he is a Republican.

Thomas Kirkman Norwood, farmer and stock-raiser, Angus, Neb. This prominent and successful tiller of the soil, residing on Section 30, Sherman Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., owes his nativity to Hamilton County, Ind., where his birth occurred on February 22, 1835. He was the eldest of the following children: Lucinda (wife of Jesse Wells, a native of Indiana, and a farmer and stock-raiser by occupation), William Wesley (married to Miss Adessah Jane Atkinson, a native of Ohio, and is now engaged in farming in Nuckolls County), Catherine (deceased), Mary Ann (deceased), Elizabeth Caroline (wife of John B. Adamson, a farmer by occupation), John (deceased), George W. (engaged in farming in Nuckolls County), Andrew Jackson (farmer and resides in Nuckolls County; he married Miss Emma Mercer, a native of Missouri), Nathaniel Taylor (resides in Nuckolls County, and is a farmer and miller by occupation, engaged in managing the Blue Bluff Mills; he married Miss L. D. Oldham, a native of Iowa) and Robert Franklin, engaged in farming in Clay County, Neb., and was married to Miss Amanda Kazaar, a native of Iowa). The parents of these children are natives of North Carolina, and both are living

in Nuckolls County, Neb., the former born in 1811 and the latter in 1815. The father is engaged in agricultural pursuits. Thomas K. Norwood was educated in the schools of Iowa, and was married on December 30, 1855, to Miss Anna Elizabeth Atkinson, a native of Ohio, born March 8, 1839, and whose education was also received in the common schools. To this union were born ten children: Charles Wesley (engaged in farming in Nuckolls County, Neb., married to Miss Laura B. Marlane, a native of Iowa), John Kirkman (also engaged in farming in Nuckolls County, married to Miss Alice Cody, a native of Wisconsin and cousin of the celebrated William Cody—Buffalo Bill), Matilda Isabelle (resides in Clay County, Neb., and is the wife of Rev. William Porter Jewett, elder in the Christian Church at Dewese, Neb., and who is also engaged in mercantile pursuits), William Ulysses Lincoln (residing on the old homestead in Nuckolls County, and is married to Miss Almira Myers, a native of McLean County, Ill.), George Edwin (resides in Nuckolls County, and the husband of Miss Nellie Cody, another cousin of Hon. William Cody), Adessa May (resides in Nuckolls County, and is the wife of Robert W. Blackwood, who is a native of Ireland and a farmer by pursuit), Lettie Blanche (resides at home), Frank Centennial (was born in 1876, and is now at home) and Amy Ethel (who is at home and the "baby" of the house). In 1872 Mr. Norwood emigrated to Nebraska, and settled in Nuckolls County when it was in a wild and unsettled condition, and when animals of nearly all kinds were plentiful. The nearest market was forty miles distant, and Edgar and Nelson were then unknown. Mrs. Norwood remarks that at one time she was acquainted with every lady in Nuckolls County, and tells about the first Fourth of July celebration, when, after the people had gathered in from all parts, there might have been possibly 100 in attendance. Mr. Norwood was in the Home Guards in Appanoose County, Iowa, during the late war. He and wife are members of the Christian Church, and are held in high esteem by all acquainted with them. They are the owners of 160 acres of good land, have a neat and comfortable residence and substantial out-

buildings. The Norwood family cast thirteen Republican votes for Benjamin Harrison during the late presidential election.

James Oldham was born in Shelby County, Ind., in December, 1837, and is the fourth child born to Aaron and Mary A. (Conner) Oldham, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky, respectively. The father was reared to manhood in his native State, and upon attaining his majority, he left his home and moved to Indiana, there engaged in agricultural pursuits, and died in 1877, in his sixtieth year, the mother having previously died in 1872. They were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom grew to maturity, and only three of whom are now living. The survivors are Margaret (wife of James Littrel, of this county), George (of Liberty Precinct) and James (the subject of this sketch). James Oldham spent his boyhood and early youth in his native State, in the common schools of which he obtained his education, and at the age of sixteen years came with his parents to Iowa. Here he farmed during the summer, and in the winter worked in the coal mines, following these occupations for about ten years. When he was twenty-three years of age he commenced life on his own responsibility, selecting farming as his occupation, which calling he has followed ever since. In the fall of 1879 he came to this county, and purchased eighty acres of unimproved land, on which was a very poor house, for which he paid \$900. To this he has since added 160 acres more, making him an excellent farm of 240 acres of good land, all of which is improved, with a neat and commodious dwelling, good barns, and out-buildings, fences, etc. As a fruit-raiser Mr. Oldham has achieved to great success, having one of the largest and finest orchards in the county. One has but to look at his fine growing meadows to see that tame grasses of all kinds can be raised in this grand young State. In 1859 he wedded Miss Charlotte Whited, daughter of Carson and Abigail (Bollibough) Whited, and by this union became the father of nine children, five of whom are living: Cora A. (now the wife of John Furnish, a farmer of this county), Rosina (the wife of William Norwood, also a farmer of this county), Jennie D.,

Alpha and Pearl, all at home. The children who died were aged, respectively, four, two and four years, and Robert died when he was sixteen years of age. As Mr. Oldham is now beginning to feel the advance of years, he has retired from the active supervision of his farm, the work being carried on by his nephew, A. V. Oldham, son of George Oldham, of this county, and a very energetic and capable young man. Both Mr. and Mrs. Oldham are members of the Christian Church, and are honored and esteemed by all with whom they come in contact. Mr. Oldham is a Republican.

W. C. Overton is one of the prominent agriculturists and stockmen of Nelson Township, Nuckolls County. He was born in Greene County, Ind., in October, 1844, and while he was still an infant in arms, his parents removed to Monroe County, Iowa, where they remained for one year, and then moved to Clarke County, where he grew to manhood, receiving a limited education. He was the eighth child born to William and Nancy (Clark) Overton, both of whom were born, reared and married in Tennessee, and soon after the latter event took place moved to Indiana; and resided there for two years, during which time our subject was born. Of the ten children born to their union all grew to maturity, their names being Gilham (who took sick and died during the late war), Lovica (deceased), David (residing on the old homestead in Clarke County, Iowa), Hiram (residing in Clarke County, Iowa), Ellen (deceased), Almira (the wife of Isaac Langley, a farmer, resides in Grant County, Ind.), Sarah (is the wife of J. V. Michel, of Clarke County, Iowa), the subject of this sketch, Nancy (wife of S. M. Sherrow, resides on the old home place in Clarke County, Iowa) and A. C. (is now in British Columbia). The mother closed her eyes to the scenes of this world forever at her old home in Clarke County, Iowa, in 1875. The subject of this sketch commenced life for himself as a farmer in Iowa at the age of twenty years. He came to this county in 1876, and purchased eighty acres of land, for which he paid \$560, and the following year he purchased eighty acres more. This was then all raw prairie land, but he greatly improved this place, and after living on it for six years, he sold it

and bought the farm on which he is now living, comprising 160 acres, all of which is well improved. In politics Mr. Overton is an ardent Democrat, and belongs to the Farmers' Alliance. Mr. and Mrs. Overton, *nee* Mary J. Hall, are the parents of four children (but three of whom are now living), viz.: Albert, Melvin (deceased), Ira and Gracie. They and the two boys are members of the Christian Church. Mrs. Overton is a daughter of Warren and Cynthia (Parks) Hall, the former born in Kentucky and the latter in North Carolina.

J. W. Pearce is the clerk of the district court of Nuckolls County, and has, in every way, proven himself a most able and efficient official. His birth occurred in Gambier, Knox County, Ohio, in 1847, and there he continued to make his home, receiving fair educational advantages, until he was seventeen years of age, when he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Eighty-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, remaining until the close of the war. Upon returning home he clerked in a boot and shoe establishment until twenty-two years of age, when he went to Nevada, Storey County, Iowa, to clerk in a shoe store. He is next found in Grinnell, Iowa, where he followed the same occupation, and then for some time traveled through Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado in search of a suitable location in which to settle. In a few months he returned to Iowa, and until his removal to Superior, Nuckolls County, Neb., in March, 1887, he was a resident of Winterset, Iowa. He was married in this place in March, 1874, the maiden name of his wife being Dessie G. Koon. She was born in Blair County, Pa., in 1851, and is one of the best of wives and neighbors. Upon his removal to this State Mr. Pearce clerked in a general mercantile establishment until he was appointed to the position of clerk of the district courts of Nuckolls County, he being a staunch Republican in politics. He approves of secret organizations, and is a worthy member of the A. O. U. W. and the I. O. O. F. His father, George J. W. Pearce, was born in England, and at the age of twelve years was brought to America, and is now a resident of Pasadena, Cal. His wife, whose

maiden name was Elizabeth Powell, was born in Ohio, and became the mother of eight children.

M. L. Pierce, a prosperous young business man of Superior, Neb., was originally from Mount Holly, Rutland County, Vt., where his birth occurred, November 22, 1859, and was the elder of two children (the younger being a daughter, who now resides in Boston, Mass.) born to Lorenzo and Nancy (Smith) Pierce. The father was also a native of Mount Holly, born in the early part of October, 1836, and the mother, who was a native of Plattsburg, N. Y., was born October 22, 1836. The father, during the principal part of his life, followed merchandising. His death occurred in June, 1866. The mother now resides in Middlebury, Vt. When M. L. Pierce was two years of age, his parents removed to Rutland, Vt., where his father died, and shortly after this bereavement he went with his widowed mother to Middlebury, Vt. When eleven years of age he accompanied her to Addison, Vt., where he remained two years, and when thirteen years of age he went to Rutland, where he entered the employ of George H. Palmer, a large dry-goods merchant. He clerked for him during the greater portion of four years, and when seventeen years of age went to Greenwich, N. Y., where he filled a similar position for two years. In 1880 he came west, and for one year clerked in a clothing store in Abilene, Kas. Returning to Greenwich, N. Y., November 1, 1881, he engaged in the clothing business for himself, and for six years was a member of the firm of McGeech & Pierce. In February, 1888, Mr. Pierce engaged with the firm of Rockwell, Rhodes & Miller, clothing manufacturers of Utica, N. Y., and he has been in their employ as a traveling salesman ever since. For some time after entering their employ he made his headquarters at Abilene, Kas., but November 1, 1888, he removed to Superior, Neb., and on November 13 he and his brother-in-law, Mr. D. E. Croft, established a clothing and gents' furnishing store at this place, which they have conducted very successfully ever since. On January 11, 1890, Mr. Pierce established a branch store at Nelson, Neb., which is also doing a good business. Mr. Pierce was married January 8, 1885, to Miss Sallie Croft,

daughter of David Croft, of Abilene, Kas., and to them have been born two children: Sallie Croft (born September 25, 1886) and David Marcellus (born January 21, 1890). Mr. Pierce is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics is a Democrat. He is a thoroughgoing and energetic young merchant, and possesses, in an eminent degree, those qualities which are essential to success.

William S. Piper, proprietor of the West Side Livery Stable at Nelson, Nuckolls County, Neb., is a Michigander, born in 1855, and in that State his youth and early manhood were spent. In addition to attending the common schools, he received the advantages of a high-school education, and being fond of his books, he applied himself closely to his tasks, and upon finishing his education was a well-posted young man. From his earliest youth he was familiar with farm life, and upon reaching his twenty-third year he considered himself fully capable of earning his own living, but concluded that the West was a better field for a young man of energy and determination, and accordingly came to the fertile prairies of Nebraska. He first worked on a farm in Clay County, but in 1882 came to Nelson, and in partnership with F. P. Long opened a livery stable. This connection did not last long, however, for F. P. Long soon disposed of his interest to Mr. Piper's brother-in-law, J. B. Atkinson. Still later he became associated with a man by the name of Farling. After selling out at one time he went to Custer County, but came back and again entered business, and is now the owner of his present establishment. His horses and vehicles are always ready for use, are at the command of the public, and those who patronize Mr. Piper will find him accommodating and agreeable. He was married in Nelson to Miss Flora S. Atkinson, a native of Iowa, by whom he has one child, Guy A. Mr. Piper is a Republican. He is a son of Simon Piper, who was at that time residing in Michigan. The latter and his wife, who died there, were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living—three sons and five daughters. William was three months old when his mother died and one year old when his father died.

Josiah Popejoy has been accounted a prosperous

tiller of the soil of Nuckolls County since 1882. His birth occurred in Fayette County, Ohio, July 7, 1840, he being a son of Christopher P. and Mary (Bowers) Popejoy, both of whom were Virginians. The former removed to Ohio when a lad, with his parents, and there he grew to manhood and married, he and wife becoming the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eighth. In 1841 Mr. Popejoy removed with his family to Indiana, and resided on a farm in Wells County until his death, which occurred in 1871. He held various official positions here, and was clerk of Wells County for two terms. He was a captain in the War of 1812, and for about forty years was a licensed minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife died in 1845. Josiah Popejoy's early youth and manhood were spent in Wells County, and there he became thoroughly conversant with the duties attendant upon farm life. He removed from Indiana to Illinois in 1866, and until the fall of 1869 he was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Vermilion County. He then married and moved to Champaign County, where he made his home for seven years, and the year 1882 witnessed his advent in Nuckolls County, Neb., where he is the owner of a fertile and well improved farm of 160 acres. His residence is in good condition, and he has a thriving young orchard of many varieties of fruits. His marriage to Miss Mahala E. Denny was celebrated on November 1, 1869, she having been born in Washington County, Ind., where she also grew to womanhood, her parents being R. R. and Kittie Denny. Mr. Popejoy is an elder in the Lutheran Church, in which his wife is also a member, and their family consists of three children: Maggie M., Louella and Edward.

Judge Joseph H. Pritts, Nelson, Neb. Judge Pritts has been a resident of Nebraska for nearly nineteen years, and of Nuckolls County since 1885. He owes his nativity to the Keystone State, where his birth occurred in 1840, and there he remained until twenty years of age, when, on April 22, 1862, he enlisted in the Northern army, Company D, Fifteenth United States Infantry. He was a participant in the following engagements: Chattanooga, November 24 and 25, 1863, Buzzard's Roost,

Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, siege of Atlanta and others. He was wounded at Jonesboro, Ga., on September 1, 1864; was in the hospital for some time, and joined his company before he was discharged. Returning to Pennsylvania after the war, he followed agricultural pursuits, and was married in 1864 to Miss Rosa A. Hoffman, a native also of Pennsylvania, born in 1839. In 1872 Judge Pritts left his native State, where he had held many positions of trust in his county, emigrated to Nebraska, and first located in Richardson County, where he remained until 1885. Before his commission as justice of the peace (which he had received in Pennsylvania) had run out, he was elected to the same position in Richardson County, and before this had run out he was placed on the school board. He takes a deep interest in educational matters, and in fact all laudable enterprises. In the fall of 1887 he was elected judge of Nuckolls County, and so great was his popularity that he was re-elected in 1889. He received 1,189 votes on the second term, against 600 for his strongest opponent—the largest vote received in the county. The Judge has been a member of the G. A. R. since 1878, and is senior vice-commander. He is a member of the Alliance, and is a member of the Lutheran Church. In his political preferences he is a Republican, and his first presidential vote was for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860. He is the owner of 160 acres of land, and has a good house in town. By his marriage the Judge became the father of five children: Norman L., Alexander A., Minerva J., Ellen M. and Rudolph G. His parents, Hy and Mary (Hoover) Pritts, were natives of Somerset County, Pa., the father born in 1800 and died in 1860. They were parents of four children, all now living.

Perry Ralston, farmer and stock-raiser, Bostwick Township, Nuckolls County, Neb. There are few farms of the size, if any, in this portion of Nuckolls County, that presents a better picture of advanced agriculture than the one referred to in the present sketch. It contains 430 acres, nearly all under cultivation, and as far as natural advantages and the manner in which it is improved are concerned, it is probably without a superior here-

abouts. The owner of this farm, Mr. Ralston, was born in Butler County, Pa., May 29, 1850. His father, David Ralston, was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and there married to Miss Mary Sharp, who was also a Pennsylvanian by birth. Mr. Ralston was a millwright, and followed that trade in Pennsylvania for many years. In 1853, when the subject of this sketch was but three years of age, he determined to come west to court dame fortune, and accordingly moved with his family to Jackson County, Iowa, where he worked at his trade until 1874, at that time coming to Nebraska and settling on a farm seven miles northwest of Red Cloud, being among the early pioneers of that section, and here he did his first farming. Both he and wife are still living, although getting well along in years. Perry Ralston was the eldest son, and the third in order of birth, of five children, all of whom are still living, and grew to manhood in Iowa, remaining with his father until he had attained his majority, at which time he came to Nebraska, locating at Red Cloud in 1871, and, having previously learned the blacksmith's trade in Jones County, Iowa, he worked at this trade at this place for a number of years. He started a shop at Red Cloud, and carried on a blacksmith and wagon-repairing shop until 1881, when he sold out and moved to Nuckolls County, locating on the Republican River bottoms, where he now resides. He makes a business of raising and stall-feeding a few steers each year, and finds it very profitable. His farm is well stocked with the usual conveniences for farm labor; he has a good dwelling and out-buildings, such as barns, sheds, cribs, etc., and he also has an orchard of 100 young trees just beginning to bear, besides a quantity of small fruit. At Red Cloud, September 20, 1876, Mr. Ralston was united in matrimony to Miss Susan Hughes, born, reared and educated in Alamahee County, a daughter of C. Hughes, who is now a resident of Nuckolls County, and five children have been given to them, viz.: May, William, Ella, Corilla and Dilsie. Mr. Ralston is a staunch Republican, and always supports the men and measures of that party.

Judge John Reilly, carriage manufacturer, of

Superior, Neb., and police judge of that place, was born on the Atlantic Ocean, on April 10, 1832, while his parents, Adam and Margaret (Johnson) Reilly, were *en route* to America. On reaching the continent, the family first settled in Ottawa, Canada, but shortly afterward removed to Brockville, Canada. Before coming to America the father, who was a native of Ireland (as was also the mother), was in the British military a number of years, and participated in the battle of Waterloo under Wellington. He also made a trip to the West Indies. After locating in Brockville, Canada, he again entered the British service, and continued therein about ten years, or until 1846, serving entirely in Canada. There both parents received their final summons. Judge John Reilly passed his youthful days in Brockville and Prescott, Canada, and learned the trade of a carriage-maker near Brockville, beginning at this when fifteen years of age. When nineteen years of age, after having served an apprenticeship of four years, he came to the United States, and spent about six months, laboring as a journeyman carriage-maker, at Ogdensburg, N. Y. Then returning to Canada, he worked as a journeyman a year and a half at Spencerville, after which he began a carriage business for himself at Heck's Corners, Canada. His marriage occurred at that place on January 12, 1853, when Miss Mary Knapp became his wife. She was born in Canada in November, 1834, and was the daughter of William and Jane (Alder) Knapp, the former a native of Canada, and the latter of England. About two years after his marriage Mr. Reilly removed to a point some five miles from Heck's Corners, where he conducted a carriage shop for about three years. He then removed to another point in the same vicinity, and about three years later removed to Henry's Corners, near Prescott. At all the above places he carried on the carriage-making business for himself, and in 1865 he again came to the United States, and at this time located at Ashton, Lee County, Ill., where he conducted a carriage and blacksmith shop until 1879. In that year he came to Nebraska, and after a brief residence in Lincoln, located in Elk Creek, Johnson County, where, in

1880, he started a carriage shop, which he conducted six years. In 1886 he came to Superior, where he and Robert L. Orr have conducted a first-class carriage and blacksmith shop ever since. In connection with this they also deal quite extensively in agricultural implements. Mr. and Mrs. Reilly have had seven children: Emma, William E. and Adam E. (twins), Robert, George, Jennie F. and Harry C. Adam E. is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Reilly are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge. In politics he is a Republican, and served as justice of the peace two terms, or four years, at Elk Creek. He has also held the same office one term of two years at Superior. On April 1, 1889, he was elected police judge of that city, and he is now filling the office in a creditable and satisfactory manner.

C. M. Ross, druggist and postmaster of Oak, Neb., was born in Wayne County, Ind., in 1848, one of a family of five children born to the union of J. M. and Ellen (Hannah) Ross. His father was born in Kentucky, in 1808, of Scotch parentage, and grew to manhood in his native State. Early in life he moved to Ohio, and there engaged in business as a dentist, later as a merchant, and finally as a miller, and then traded his interests for land. He was an extremely fine looking man, being over six feet two inches in height and well proportioned. In politics he voted with the Republican party, and was a strong Abolitionist. He died in 1886, in his seventy-eighth year. The mother was born in Wayne County, Ind., in 1816, of Irish descent, and died in 1880, at the age of sixty-four years. Grandfather Ross was a large slave owner in Kentucky, but freed his slaves and moved to Ohio. The maternal grandfather was a resident of Centerville, Wayne County, Ind., and was secretary and treasurer of the old Indiana Central Railway. He was very prominently identified with the Republican party and held several offices of honor and trust, serving as sheriff of Wayne County, Ind., also three terms in the Legislature, and was elected and served one term as secretary of State. Although our subject is a native of Indiana, he knows very little about his native State, as his parents

took him to Illinois in his tenth year. They located in Vermilion County, and here C. M. Ross was reared to maturity, obtaining his education at the common schools of this county and in the Stockwell Academy, of Tippecanoe County, Ind., which latter institution he attended for three years. After completing his education, he embarked in the mercantile business, but not finding this occupation exactly in accordance with his tastes, he soon sold out, and for two years following was engaged in teaching the young idea. While attending school he had taken up the study of medicine, and in 1876 he opened a drug store at Rossville, Ill., and successfully continued the business for ten years. In 1886 he sold out and came to Nebraska, locating first in Shickley, in Fillmore County, where he carried on a drug business from October of that year to January 1, 1889, when he removed his stock to this place, purchased land and erected a building, and has since been in the drug business here, and has a very good trade, being the only druggist in the town. On June 15, 1889, he was commissioned postmaster, and has since efficiently discharged the duties of that office. His marriage to Mrs. Ida (Brant) Fate was consummated in 1884, at Danville, Ill. Mr. Ross' eldest brother served his country during the late war, enlisting in Company B, Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died of typhoid fever during service. Mr. and Mrs. Ross are both prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ross is a staunch Republican in politics, is notary public, and takes a deep interest in all that pertains to the good of the community. He was a delegate to nominate regents of the State University, in June, 1887, and also served as a delegate to the Congressional convention that met in Hastings in 1888.

George W. Rouse, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Nuckolls County, residing on Section 25, St. Stephen's Township, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, March 10, 1837. His father, James S. Rouse, came to Ohio from New York (where he was born) when a young man, being one of the early settlers of that county, and was there married to Miss Elizabeth De Selms, a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. Rouse was a car-

penter by trade, and followed that occupation in Ohio for a number of years. In 1867 he moved to Nebraska, and settled in Cass County, being one of the early pioneers of that county, taking up 160 acres of raw prairie land, which he has since converted into a good farm, on which he still resides, with a son, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His wife passed from earth in 1886. George W. Rouse spent his boyhood and early youth in his native State, and at the age of seventeen years came west to Peoria County, Ill., and made his home there until 1861. In August, 1861, Mr. Rouse enlisted in Company B, Thirty-Seventh Illinois Infantry, for three years, veteranizing in the First Missouri Light Artillery, in which he served until the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Chalk Bluff, surrender of Vicksburg, siege and capture of Mobile. He was discharged at St. Louis in August, 1865, after having served his country loyally and well for four years. After receiving his discharge, he returned to Illinois, and in December of the same year was united in matrimony to Mrs. Sarah E. Wright, a widow lady, and the daughter of James Milligan. She was born in Pennsylvania and reared in Illinois. After his marriage Mr. Rouse tilled the soil in Illinois for two years, and in the fall of 1868 moved to Nebraska, settling in Cass County, where he homesteaded 160 acres of land, which he improved and made into a good farm. Here he made his home until 1880, when he sold out and moved to Nuckolls County and purchased his present property, comprising 160 acres of land, five miles due west of Nelson. Most of this land is under cultivation, and with a fine young grove, good buildings, wind-pump, etc., it may well be considered one of the finest farms in this section. In politics Mr. Rouse was formerly a Republican, but now casts his vote with the Prohibition party. Mr. and Mrs. Rouse are the parents of three children, viz.: Edwin (a young man at home), Ella (an attractive young lady) and Irene (a young miss of nine years). Mr. and Mrs. Rouse are both members of the Evangelical Association, and are highly esteemed by their neighbors and friends.

J. D. Rouse, farmer and stock-raiser, Nelson, Neb. Among those in the township who are, and for some time past have been, giving their attention to the stock business as a principal part of their farming interests, there is no man more prominently associated with the industry than Mr. Rouse. When it became necessary for him to start out in life for himself, he very naturally and wisely chose the occupation to which he had been reared, and from that time to the present his success has been such as only a thorough acquaintance with his calling and years of experience might lead him to achieve. He was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, in November, 1842, and was the fifth child born to the marriage of James S. and Elizabeth (De Selm) Rouse, the father a native of the Empire State and the mother of Pennsylvania. Twelve children were the result of their union: Gilbert (a contractor and builder in Omaha), George W. (resides in St. Stephen's Precinct), T. S. (who died while serving in the Union army), Orlando (deceased), J. D., J. P. (of Cass County), Anderson (of Highland Precinct), Erastus (died in infancy), Isabella (wife of J. S. Mathews, an attorney of Plattsmouth), F. M. (of Highland Precinct) and Robert M. (also of Highland Precinct). The father of these children was born in 1808, and has followed farming all his life. He is now residing in Cass County. The mother died in 1886. The father is a member of the Congregational Church, of which the mother was also a member. J. D. Rouse received a good practical education in the common schools of Illinois, and in 1861 he entered the United States service in Company C, Illinois Volunteers. He served through the entire war, and was honorably discharged at Chicago, Ill., in February, 1865. During the service he participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca, Dalton, Mission Ridge, Atlanta and all through the Atlantic campaign. At the close of the war he engaged in tilling the soil in Knox County, Ill., and in 1868 he came to Cass County, Neb., took and improved a homestead of 160 acres, and remained there ten years. He then came to this county and purchased his present property. It was all raw land at that time, but he now has it

well improved with a good dwelling, barns and other out-buildings. He raises some of the best grade of stock in the township. He has been a Republican in his political principles in the past years, but is now an active Prohibitionist. He is a member of the G. H. Thomas Post No. 15, G. A. R., Nelson, Neb., and is also a member of the Farmers' Alliance. In 1868 he married Miss Fannie Gilbreath, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Johnson) Gilbreath, and two children were born to them: Edwin L. (a teacher of this county) and Lucinda. Mr. Rouse and wife and children are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Rouse is well pleased with Nebraska, and expects to make this State his future home. He contributes liberally to the support of all religious and educational enterprises.

A. Rouse, farmer and stock-raiser, is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, born in August, 1847, being the seventh son of James S. and Elizabeth (De Selms) Rouse, the former born in York State and the latter in Pennsylvania. The father attained manhood in his native State, and in his youth learned the trade of cabinet-making, and in connection with this work followed contracting and building after his removal to Ohio. He remained in the "Buckeye State" until 1853, and then removed to Peoria County, Ill., this county being his home until the spring of 1867, in which year Cass County, Neb., became, and still is, his abiding place. His homestead consists of eighty acres of fertile and well-improved land, and throughout that country he is well and favorably known. He is now in his eighty-second year. His wife died in the fall of 1886, in Cass County, aged sixty-nine years, the fiftieth anniversary of their married life having been celebrated nearly three years before her death. She was the mother of twelve children, all of whom grew to mature years except two, who died in infancy. A. Rouse, the immediate subject of this biography, was favored with a good common-school education in his youth in the State of Illinois, and at the age of twenty-one years began the battle of life for himself as a farmer in Cass County, Neb. In the spring of 1883 he came to Nuckolls County and purchased

the farm which he is now tilling, which consists of 160 acres. It was all raw land at the time of his purchase, but is now in an excellent state of cultivation and is finely improved, with all necessary buildings, fences, fruit and forest trees, etc. He is a Prohibitionist in his political views, and polled a strong vote as nominee for county clerk on that ticket. He was married in November, 1868, to Miss Mary R. Waters, only daughter of James and Nancy A. (Cox) Waters, the father a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio, and the mother of Canada. Mrs. Rouse was born in Iowa in 1850, and has borne Mr. Rouse five children: Elmer S., William B., Leo A. (who died in infancy), Ethelyn M. and Nannie E. Mr. Rouse has always been very favorably impressed with Nebraska as a farming country, and the property which he now owns has been made in this State by his own exertions and good management. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and Mrs. Rouse and their eldest son are members of the Christian Church.

Thomas C. Russell, liveryman, Superior, Neb. A livery stable is a most essential institution, both for pleasure and convenience. To be able to command at any moment a horse and rig for a drive in the country, or for business or other purposes, is a privilege the value of which can not be too highly estimated. A prominent liveryman of Superior is Mr. Thomas C. Russell, who was born in Delaware County, Ohio, on August 30, 1849, and who is the son of Stephen S. and Ellen (Bowen) Russell, the former a native of Lancaster County, Ohio, born July 20, 1806, and the latter a native of Virginia, born November 12, 1810. The mother died on April 22, 1890, having been respected and esteemed by her many warm friends. Thomas C. Russell was the ninth of eleven children, seven of whom are living. They were named as follows: Mary J., William, James, Charles, John, Nathan, Robert, Stephen, Thomas C., Samuel and Sarah. As will be seen, the eldest and youngest are daughters and the rest are sons. Those deceased are William, James, Charles and John. Thomas C. Russell was but a year old when his parents removed to Knox County, Ill.,

where his boyhood days were passed in assisting on the farm and in attending the common schools. When seventeen years of age he enlisted in the Union army, but his father prevented him from going. He was married in Knox County, Ill., on January 7, 1873, to Miss Emma J. Dingman, a native of Fulton County, Ill., born August 29, 1850, and the daughter of William and Margaret Dingman, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. In 1876 Mr. Russell removed to Adair County, Iowa, where he resided seven and a half years engaged in tilling the soil and stock-raising, and in 1884 he removed to Superior, Neb. Here he has since been engaged in the livery business, has a large brick livery barn at that place, and has one of the finest establishments of the kind in the State. He is one of Superior's most reliable and influential men. He is a Republican in politics.

Thomas B. Sargent, a prosperous farmer and stockman, is also successfully engaged in dealing in all kinds of ornamental and fruit trees. A native of Warren County, Ill., born December 1, 1842, he grew to manhood and received his education in his native State, and his youth was spent in tilling the soil. On August 1, 1862, he joined the Federal army, becoming a member of Company H, Eighty-third Illinois Infantry, but owing to disability was discharged November 1, of that year, and returned home. In April, 1865, he went to Iowa, and in Clarke County was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Sarah J. Roberts, who was born in Darke County, Ohio, in 1848. He continued to make the "Hawkeye State" his home until 1878, being a worthy agriculturist, and a hotel-keeper and liveryman of Murray for about five years, but has since been a well-known resident of Nuckolls County, Neb. He purchased seventy-nine acres of land, which he was energetically engaged in tilling until about two years since, when he turned his attention to the culture of fruit and ornamental trees, at which he has done exceptionally well. His business has increased from \$300 to \$900, and all of his trees that die he replaces at half price. His children are named as follows: Emma (wife of E. E. Stone), John J.,

Nellie, Ollie, Frank and George. Mr. Sargent is a member of the G. A. R., and while a resident of Iowa, in 1865, he was one of only four men who voted the Democratic ticket in his precinct, being compelled to make out their own tickets. His parents, John and Mary (Johnson) Sargent, were born in Kentucky, the former being a farmer by occupation. He was a participant in the Black Hawk War, a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Christian Church. He died in Clarke County, Iowa, at the age of eighty-three years, he and his wife having become the parents of nine children. The paternal grandfather was a native of Virginia, but was of Scotch-Irish descent.

F. A. Scherzinger, co-editor of Nelson Gazette with T. W. Cole, was born in Monroe County, Ohio, April 7, 1865, and is the son of J. B. (born August 24, 1841) and Rosa (born July 26, 1842) (Yost) Scherzinger, natives of Baden, Germany, and Ohio, respectively. The father came from Baden to America at the age of twelve years, with his mother—then a widow—who is still living with him, and located in New York first, then moved to Delaware, and from there to Clarington, Ohio, when a young man. In March, 1888, he came to Nuckolls County, Neb., and is now living on a farm in that county. He is a natural born mechanic, but at the present time is engaged in agricultural pursuits. In his political views he affiliated with the Republican party. F. A. Scherzinger was one of six children—two girls and three boys—three now living (Charles W., born August 4, 1870, Jacob P., born July 22, 1876), born to his parents. His sisters were named Edith T., born May 6, 1867 and Alma E., born November 20, 1872; they died at the age of five and two years, respectively. F. A. was reared and educated in Clarington, Ohio, and commenced learning the printer's trade at the age of seventeen. In January, 1886, he came to this county, located in Nelson, purchased the paper, and has edited it ever since. Under his efficient management, the Gazette has come to be regarded as one of the representative papers of the county, and Mr. Scherzinger has proven himself to be a man of good judgment in directing the editorial policy of his paper. Since October, 1888, Mr.

Cole has been a partner. In his political views Mr. Scherzinger is a Republican, and socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P. Mr. Scherzinger's grandmother was born March 25, 1817.

John J. Seaman is a hard-working and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser, of Highland Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., and the farm of 200 acres which he is now so successfully engaged in tilling has been earned by his own endeavors, and with the valuable aid and assistance of his worthy wife. He was born in Muskegon, Mich., March 1, 1854, being the second of seven children born to R. S. and Elizabeth (Arnold) Seaman, both of whom were born in York State. Elizabeth Arnold moved to Michigan in the year 1835, with her father, Jeremiah Arnold, who bought the land where the city of Hillsdale now stands. R. S. Seaman moved to Michigan with his parents in 1841, who located in the town of Cambria, in Hillsdale County. They were married in the year 1850, and improved two farms in that State. R. S. Seaman was a volunteer in the Fourth Michigan Cavalry during the war, and served two years, being in the raid after Jeff Davis, and had the honor of standing guard over him the first night following his capture. In May, 1870, they came to Saline County, Neb., and homesteaded eighty acres of land, which Mr. Seaman, with the help of his wife and family, succeeded in finely improving. He died in 1874, and his widow now lives in Nelson, Neb. Their children are John J., Joseph R. (who is married and resides in Kansas City), Mary E. (now Mrs. Judd J. Ayers, of Beaver City, Neb.), Edna L. (Mrs. E. L. Harding, also of that place) and Editha E. (now Mrs. Beebe, of Fairbury, Neb.). John J. Seaman, after remaining with his parents on the farm in Michigan, and attending the common schools of that State, and also those of Nebraska, began farming for himself at the age of twenty years, and made his first purchase of land in Saline County, Neb., in 1875, which consisted of eighty acres. In 1884 he purchased his present farm in Nuckolls County, and immediately began erecting buildings of all kinds, and setting out a good orchard. He now has 150 fruit trees, which will

soon begin bearing, and 2,000 shade trees. Besides tilling nearly all of his land, he is quite extensively engaged in raising stock, and keeps a high grade of cattle and horses, which bring him in a handsome sum of money annually. He always votes with the Republican party, and is the present central committeeman of Highland Precinct. He is also the present assessor, and has been a member of the school board a number of years. He was married in Saline County, Neb., December 25, 1882, to Miss Pauline Kegler, and by her has one child, Roscoe A. She was born in Germany, and is a daughter of Martin and Eureka Kegler, who came from their native land of Germany to America in 1868. They first settled in Wisconsin, and in 1877 came to Saline County, Neb., where they are now living. Mr. Seaman belongs to the Farmers' Alliance, and has always been interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of the county.

F. S. Shaw, county clerk of Nuckolls County, Nelson, Neb. Nowhere in Nuckolls County is to be found a young man of more energy or determined will or force of character than Mr. Shaw, and no young man has been more honorably identified with the interests of this county and with its advancement in every worthy particular than he. He was born in Leechburg, Westmoreland County, Pa., in 1858, and is the son of Joseph and Martha (Blackburn) Shaw. His father was a native of Virginia, and has been an active minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church for more than thirty years, and now resides at Beaver, Pa. F. S. Shaw arrived at years of discretion as a farmer boy in Muskingum County, Ohio. In 1882 he graduated from Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio, with the degree of A. B., at the same time taking with him his parchment as a graduate also of the Commercial Department. He afterward went to Pennsylvania, clerked in a grocery store for a short time, and in the spring of 1883 he came west. He first located in Carleton, Thayer County, Neb., and was engaged in the real estate and banking business for six months. He then came to Nelson and embarked in the real estate and banking business in behalf of Mr. Saylor. He afterward wrote up a set of abstract books of Nuckolls



Capt. Henry H. Short,

NUCKOLLS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

County, which he still owns and keeps up, they being the only set of abstract books in the county. He was elected county clerk in the fall of 1887, notwithstanding the county being strongly Republican, and re-elected in the fall of 1889, with a greatly increased majority. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the K. of P., and in politics he is Democratic.

Capt. H. W. Short. Of the many prominent names which make up the strength of the Nebraska bar, that of Mr. Short holds a foremost place, and his experience in Nuckolls County as a legal practitioner dates back to 1876, when he moved thither with his family and opened an office in Nelson. He was born in Leicestershire, England, in 1842, and at the age of seven years was brought to the United States by his parents, and in the State of Illinois received the benefit of a liberal education. From his earliest boyhood he had high literary aspirations, and contemplated making some of the learned professions his calling, but about this time the Civil War burst upon the country, and all the discipline of his earliest manhood was destined to be received upon the battle-field. He had been reared in America, was truly American in ideas and inclinations, and as the questions of secession and slavery were all-absorbing topics of the hour, Mr. Short was deeply interested in their amicable settlement and was strongly opposed to both. When the tocsin of war was sounded he became one of the valiant Federal soldiers who volunteered to risk his life for the preservation of the Union, and entered the First Illinois Light Artillery, serving from the month of December, 1863, until July 6, 1865. During that period he was a participant in twenty-two hotly-contested battles, the most important of which were Resaca, Big Shanty, New Hope Church, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station and Nashville, Tenn., being in the Fifteenth Army Corps, of which Gen. Logan was commander. He then returned to his home and friends with the consciousness of having served his country faithfully and well, and to enjoy the blessings which his bravery and valor had helped to win. In the pursuit of domestic affairs

among his fields and flocks, and amidst the busy hum of social industries, he endeavored to forget the carnage of the battle-field and to remember the war only by its effects on national questions. For a short period after his return home he devoted his attention to milling and farming, but still held to his original intention of becoming a professional man, and at odd moments he read law, economizing the time that men usually waste, and thus gradually prepared himself for the calling in which he now holds a pre-eminent and honorable place. The opening of the great West to settlers about this time attracted Capt. Short's attention, and thinking to find a larger scope for his talents he, in 1871, emigrated to Nebraska, settling in Saunders County, where he read law under Attorney Sprague. As his finances were at a very low ebb on reaching this State, he was compelled to engage in chopping wood the first winter, as a means of keeping the wolf from the door, and after having faithfully discharged his duties all winter, was obliged to sue his employer for his wages, and as good as lost the results of his labor. Spurred on by a determination to better his condition and support his family properly, Capt. Short found that he could chop more wood than many experienced choppers who had almost double his physical strength, and so continued to devote his attention to this work for some time, and in this manner managed to pay the government fees on his land by working by the day. He finally went to Clay County, Neb., where he homesteaded a quarter section of land, also taking up a timber claim of 160 acres, some forty acres of which he converted into a fine forest, this being the third timber claim entered in the Beatrice Land Office. While improving his property, he completed his course in law and was admitted to the Clay County bar, and as soon as his circumstances permitted, which was in 1876, he moved his family to Nuckolls County and opened a law and real estate office in Nelson. Being one of the earliest homesteaders of Clay County he kept trace of the immigration, and was, and still is, one of the best known men in this section of the State. Capt. Short is an extensive land owner in Nuckolls and adjoining counties,

and is in command of a remunerative law practice. He organized the Alexander Guards, of Nelson, in 1878, and held the commission of second lieutenant until made first lieutenant of Company H of the First Regiment, and for three years past has been captain of the same. He received a special appointment by the Governor of Nebraska as one of the commissioners to write the military code of the State, and is a member of the Council of Administration of the Department of the G. A. R. for the State. He is a charter member of the G. A. R. of Nelson, and is also a member of the A. O. U. W. In 1866 he was married in Ogle County, Ill., to Miss Fannie E. Smelt, his union proving a very happy one, and he and wife have a family of seven children. Edward (who has just attained his majority) is an intelligent and wide-awake young man. He is soon to graduate from the public schools of Nelson, but before commencing his final literary course he read law under his father, and was eminently fitted to be admitted to the bar. The remainder of the family are Henry E., Mary E., George E., Carroll W., Grace and Leslie. Capt. Short is an agreeable companion, is warm-hearted and honorable to a degree, and the other many worthy traits in his character make him always pleasant to meet and a desirable man with whom to do business. He is of a philosophic turn of mind, is remarkable for the clearness of his demonstrations, for his capability of nice distinctions in complex and difficult questions, and for the breadth of his conceptions on questions of law. His fine executive ability renders him capable of giving valuable advice on almost any point of law at a moment's notice, and as a counselor he has few equals. He has a large following of friends in Nebraska, and is favorably looked upon in political circles as a subject of future political preferments in this part of the State.

D. W. Smith, one of the pioneer settlers of Liberty Precinct, emigrated to Nuckolls County in April, 1872, homesteaded land on Section 8, and here he has since resided. He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1844, being the eldest of eight children born to John M. and Catherine (Weiler)

Smith, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. The father was a farmer, and moved to Madison Township, Allen County, Ind., in 1852, purchased forty acres of land, improved it, and is now the owner of 320 acres all well cultivated. Both parents are living and reside on this homestead. Their children are named as follows: D. W., Mary (at home), H. W. (married and resides at Baxter Springs, Kas.), Cinderella (now Mrs. Honck, residing in Allen County, Ind.), Rose (now Mrs. Elijah Honck, also of Allen County, Ind.), J. W. (was married in Superior, Neb., in 1876, and now resides at Monmouth Springs, Ark.), Katie (now Mrs. Lenhart, of Allen County, Ind.) and Letitia Ann (who died in 1853). Grandfather Philip Smith was an early pioneer of Wayne County, Ohio. The Smith family were among the first to cross the Ohio River at Steubenville, Ohio, and some members of this family were in the Indian wars. The Smiths are of German descent, coming to the colonies in 1761, and some were always on the frontier. D. W. Smith was early taught the duties of farm life, attended the schools of Indiana, and improved the education thus received by reading and observation. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Eighty-ninth Indiana Infantry, and was mustered into service at Indianapolis on August 28, 1862, being assigned to the Sixteenth Army Corps. He was at Fort Pickering for thirteen months on garrison duty, then went to Meridian, thence to Vicksburg, and then on the Red River campaign. He was taken sick in Louisiana, was sent to the hospital at Vicksburg, and after remaining there for some time removed to Mound City, Ill., where he remained until October, 1864. He then started with his company after Gen. Price, was taken with the small-pox and confined in the hospital at Jefferson City, Mo. He was honorably discharged at St. Louis on May 18, 1865, and returned to Indiana, where he engaged in farming. He was married in Lower Chanceford, Pa., on March 11, 1877, to Miss Arabella Stokes, a native of York County, Pa., and the daughter of William and Hannah (Morton) Stokes, natives also of the Keystone State. The father died in 1880 and the mother in 1889. In 1872 Mr. Smith came to Ne-

braska, improved a farm, and in 1876 purchased 320 acres of partly improved land. He improved this, set out trees, and now has one of the best farms in the township. In connection with his farming interests he raises considerable stock. Mr. Smith is active in politics and votes with the Republican party. He is now a great temperance advocate. He was one of the first justices of Sherman Precinct, and was the one who circulated the petition for forming that precinct. He has also been justice of Liberty Precinct, has been a member of the school board, and takes a deep interest in educational matters. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post in Indiana. He and Mrs. Smith are members of the United Brethren Church, and Mr. Smith has been very active in organizing Sabbath-schools. He has been a delegate to the State and county conventions, and is active in all good work. To his marriage have been born seven children: John P., H. W. and Katie Bell (twins, the first children born in Sherman Precinct on November 19, 1872), James W., Centennial and Mabel (twins, born in 1876 and died the same year) and Minnie. For a number of years after coming to this county, Mr. Smith followed well-boring, and was known far and near as "The Old Reliable." He passed through the grasshopper scourges and was in the great Easter storm.

Lewis S. Smith, merchant, Superior, Neb. This prominent business man was born in Delaware, Ohio, October 16, 1847, and is the son of Hiram and Lena (Arnold) Smith, both also natives of Delaware, Ohio, the former born on February 4, 1816, and the latter in February, 1818. Hiram Smith was the son of Josiah M. and Philena (Welch) Smith, natives of Berkshire County, Mass., who settled in Delaware County, Ohio, at an early day, when Indians were numerous; and Josiah M. served in the War of 1812 on Gen. Harrison's staff. The parents of our subject were married on February 6, 1840, and had five children, as follows: Josiah M., Henrietta M., Charles A., Lewis S. and Hiram P. Of these Charles A. and Hiram P. are deceased, the former dying while serving in the Union army. The parents of these children are both living, their present home being in Superior,

Neb., where they settled in November, 1888. When Lewis S. Smith was four years old his parents removed to Freeport, Ill., and in 1856 they moved to Clinton, of the same State, where he was reared to manhood, and where his father was engaged in tilling the soil and merchandising. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Clinton, and in 1864 he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University of Bloomington, where he attended one year, giving up his studies at that time on account of ill health. In December, 1865, he entered Eastman's Business College of Chicago, which he attended three months, but from which he was not permitted to graduate on account of his health. Returning to Clinton, Ill., he entered the employ of the American Express Company at that place, and thus continued for two and a half years. For a few years following this he was engaged at farming, after which he embarked in the hardware business at Clinton, and this continued for one year. For a period of twelve years following this he was occupied with farming and stock-raising. On November 28, 1867, he was married to Miss Catherine M. Hollenbeck, of Freeport, Ill., where her birth occurred in October, 1846, and the daughter of William H. and Harriet (Stevens) Hollenbeck, who were the first white settlers in Macon County, Ill. In 1882 Mr. Smith emigrated to Nebraska, locating first at Waterloo, where he engaged in merchandising, and in May, 1886, removed to Superior, where he has continued in that business ever since, and is one of the leading merchants. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have had three children: Minnette M., Lillian E. and Hiram W., all of whom are living. Mr. Smith is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A., and in politics he affiliates with the Republican party. He and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edward J. Smith, merchant, Superior, Neb. Mr. Smith, a leading merchant and business man of Superior, owes his nativity to New York City, where his birth occurred on October 15, 1852. When he was quite small he moved to Johnson County, Iowa, was trained to the arduous duties of the farm, and after starting out for himself continued to follow agricultural pursuits for several

years. In 1884 he became engaged as a clerk in a clothing store in Audubon, Iowa, and he continued in that capacity in the same store two years. In August, 1886, he came to Superior with Mr. J. A. Miller, and on reaching this place he and Mr. Miller established a large clothing and gents' furnishing store, which they have conducted with good success ever since. They are live business men, and by their agreeable and pleasing manners have built up a thriving trade. Mr. Smith is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the K. of P., and in his political views affiliates with the Republican party. He is an enterprising young business man, and a first-class citizen.

Matthias Spohn is a worthy agriculturist of Nuckolls County, Neb., and enjoys to an unlimited extent the confidence and respect of all who know him. He has been a resident of the county since 1876, at which time he came from Cass County, where he had been engaged in the milling business, located in Nuckolls County, where he now resides, purchased land and made a good farm, being one of the very first to locate on Lost Creek. He owns a very valuable farm located half a mile from Superior, comprising 160 acres of rich bottom land, which is well improved with a good house, barns, sheds, wind-pump, etc. Mr. Spohn owes his nativity to Baden, Germany, where he was born November 2, 1825, being the son of Matthias and Magdalena (Winters) Spohn, both of whom were born in Germany, and emigrated to America in 1843, locating in Pike County, Ohio, where they made their home until 1859. Mrs. Spohn died in Ohio, and subsequently Mr. Spohn, Sr., moved to Nebraska, and located in Cass County, where he died in 1880. Matthias Spohn received his education in Germany, coming with his parents to America in his seventeenth year, and grew to mature years in Ohio. After attaining manhood Mr. Spohn worked at his trade (carpentry), and in 1857 came to Nebraska, located in Cass County, and engaged in milling and farming. He was married in Jackson County, Ohio, June 30, 1859, to Miss Teresa Nipp, born in Hanover, Germany, October 8, 1832, a daughter of Joseph Nipp. Her father emigrated to this country and settled in Ohio in 1834, and there

Mrs. Spohn grew to womanhood and obtained her education. This marriage has resulted in the birth of three children—two sons and one daughter, viz.: George J., Mary L. and William C., all of whom were born and reared to mature years in Nebraska. Mr. Spohn is a Master Mason.

George J. Spohn is the son of Matthias Spohn, whose sketch immediately precedes this, and is a worthy son of an upright father. He is a native Nebraskan, being born in Cass County October 27, 1860, where he passed his boyhood and early youth, coming with his parents to Nuckolls County in his fifteenth year. He received a good common-school education in his native county, supplemented by a course in the Naomi Academy, and upon coming to Nuckolls County he engaged in teaching school and continued very successfully in that occupation for a number of years. Upon leaving this profession he accepted the office of postmaster of Superior, to which he was appointed in July, 1885. He discharged the duties incumbent upon this office very efficiently until February, 1890, when he was relieved for political reasons. He is a staunch Democrat and has ever supported the men and measures of that party, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. He is a young man of superior intelligence and excellent principles, and has already made a name for himself in the community in which he resides.

J. S. Stanley, farmer and stock-raiser, Nora, Neb. Mr. Stanley in starting out in life for himself chose as his calling the pursuit of farming, and to this end he has since put forth all his energies, and not without substantial results. His present farm in Nora Precinct consists of 160 acres of valuable land, which he cultivates in a manner that could not fail of bringing favorable returns. He was born in Indiana County, Pa., in 1847, assisted his father on the home farm, and received his education in the common schools. In 1864 he enlisted at Greensburg, Pa., in Company D, Eleventh Pennsylvania Reserves, and was mustered into service at the above-mentioned place. He was in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Culpeper, Laurel Hill and Seueca Church. He received two gunshot wounds, one in the arm and the other

in the side, and was confined at the county hospital at Alexandria, Va. He was honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., in November, 1865, and was a spectator of the Grand Review. After cessation of hostilities he returned to Pennsylvania, and again entered school. He came to Nuckolls County, Neb., a young man, and here in 1874 his marriage with Miss Susan Harris was consummated. She was born in Buckinghamshire, England, and is the daughter of William and Mary (Smith) Harris. The father died in England, and the mother came to the United States in 1869, settled in Wisconsin, but in 1870 came to Nuckolls County, Neb., where her death occurred in 1888. Mr. Stanley lost his wife in 1887. By her he became the father of six children: Fred, Burt, Frank, Clarence, William and Walter. Mr. Stanley's second marriage occurred in December, 1888, to Miss Flora Henton, a native of Michigan, and the daughter of Harry and Mary (Wakefield) Henton, natives of England, who came to the United States and settled in Kalamazoo, Mich. There the mother now resides, but the father died there in 1889. To Mr. and Mrs. Stanley was born one child, Leona. Mr. Stanley has improved three farms in this county, and at present owns 160 acres of as good land as is to be found in the vicinity. He votes with the Republican party, and has been assessor of Nora Precinct for the past six or eight years. He has been a delegate to conventions. He is a member of the George H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., at Nelson, and is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. He has always taken a deep interest in the development of the country, and has aided as much perhaps as any one man in its growth and prosperity. Mr. Stanley was the second of six children born to J. T. and Jane (Shields) Stanley, natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a blacksmith by trade and also followed agricultural pursuits. His death occurred in Pennsylvania in March, 1887. The mother now resides in the Keystone State.

Joseph M. Stanley, farmer and stock-raiser, Nuckolls County. Mr. Stanley owes his nativity to the "Hoosier State," where he was born (in Porter County) on December 4, 1849. His father,

Solomon Stanley, was born in Kentucky, but moved with his parents to Indiana when he was a lad of fifteen, first settling in Montgomery County, and later in Porter County, where he met and afterward married Miss Martha J. Witham, a native of Porter County, and the daughter of Milton Witham and wife, who were among the early settlers of that county, coming originally from Maryland. Solomon Stanley farmed in Porter County for a number of years, and there reared his family. About 1858 he moved to Missouri and settled in Grundy County, remaining there about eight years, when he sold out and went to Indiana and lived there until the spring of 1875, then locating in Nuckolls County, Neb. Here he took up raw prairie land and made a good farm, which he afterward rented and moved to Edgar, Clay County, Neb., purchased town property and resided there until, in January, 1878, he passed from this life, his widow surviving until June, 1888, when she too passed away. They reared a family of nine children—six daughters and three sons—to mature years, our subject being the eldest son, and the fourth in order of birth. Seven children are still living, five in Nebraska, one brother, William A., residing in Nevada County, Ark., and one sister in Illinois. Joseph M. Stanley resided in Missouri until 1874, then came to Nebraska and rented a farm in Nuckolls County, on which he made two crops, then purchased a claim and took a homestead, on which he resided for about two years, when he sold his land and purchased his present property. This was in the fall of 1878, and the same fall he took possession and immediately commenced improvements. He has since purchased more land, and now owns 240 acres, all bottom lands, on the Republican River, located nearly opposite the village of Bostwick, and it is a very desirable place. He has 125 acres of this land under cultivation, a good substantial residence, out-buildings, etc., a young orchard, all indicating the energy and thrift of the owner. Mr. Stanley makes a business of feeding and selling a bunch of steers and hogs each year, which bring in no inconsiderable returns. Mr. Stanley is a staunch Republican, and always supports the men and measures of that party. He has served as as-

essor and in many other local capacities, and is now one of the board of commissioners of Nuckolls County, to which office he was elected in the fall of 1889 for a term of three years. Mr. Stanley was married in Edgar, Clay County, Neb., January 12, 1879, to Miss Martha J. Stokes, a native of Tennessee, but reared and educated in Missouri. She was a daughter of Samuel Stokes. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley are the parents of four children: John Franklin, Ethel, Minnie, and Joseph, a bright little fellow of three summers. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Stanley belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

R. M. Stevenson. The agricultural affairs of Nuckolls County, Neb., are ably represented by the subject of this sketch, who has been successfully engaged in tilling the soil here since 1884. His native birthplace is Adams County, Ohio, where he was born in 1838, being a son of Mathew R. and Suzanna (Glasgow) Stevenson, the former of whom was born in the "Emerald Isle," and came to America at the age of fourteen years. He made agriculture his chief calling through life, and this occupation first received his attention in Ohio, but later in Illinois. He was married in the former State, and there made his home until after his wife's death, which occurred in 1845, her birthplace being South Carolina. R. M. Stevenson spent the greater part of his youth in Warren County, Ill., assisting his father on the farm, and there acquired a fair English education, receiving the benefit of the common schools near his home. Upon the opening of the Rebellion he was a staunch Union man, and in 1862 showed his disapproval of secession and slavery by joining Company B, Eighty-third Illinois Infantry, serving his country faithfully and well until the final surrender. His regiment was stationed at Fort Donelson the most of this period, and garrison duty and guerrilla warfare occupied the time quite fully. Upon receiving his discharge he returned to Illinois, but soon after went to Washington County, Iowa, where he was married and followed farming for six years. He then embarked in business in the town of Washington, and for ten years was joint proprietor of a grocery establish-

ment. Failing health of himself and wife compelled his removal to Nebraska in 1884. He immediately purchased his present farm of 160 acres in the beautiful valley of the Republican, two and one-half miles west from Superior, and by a liberal use of brain and brawn now has it well improved. His marriage to Miss Jemima Ferguson, a native of Pennsylvania, took place April 16, 1868, and to them seven children have been born, four of whom are living: Charlie C., John A., Walter M. and George J. Mr. Stevenson and his wife are devout and consistent members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and Republican in their political views.

Michael S. Stine, farmer and stock-raiser, Superior, Neb. In Monroe County, Ohio, in 1848, there was born to Henry and Rachel (Straul) Stine a son, who is now taken as the subject of this sketch. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, but emigrated to Ohio at an early day, and there reared their family. The father died in 1866. He was a farmer, and early trained his son (our subject) in the details of farm life. The latter received a fair education in the common schools, and when nineteen years of age he went to Springfield, Mo., where he made his home most of the time until 1881. He then came to Nuckolls County, Neb., where he has since resided. Previous to this, however, he returned to Ohio, in which State he was married, in 1875, to Miss Lottie Grisell, daughter of Edward L. and Emily (Gray) Grisell [see sketch elsewhere in this work]. Mr. Stine now resides two miles east of Superior, is the owner of eighty acres of improved land, has good, substantial buildings, and makes hog-raising a specialty. He is one of the prominent farmers of the county, and with his progressive ideas and thoroughness in all things will make a success of whatever he undertakes. He and Mrs. Stine are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are active in religious matters. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance of Garfield Township, and in his political views affiliates with the Republican party.

Nelson H. Stoner is a rising citizen of Nuckolls County, and although still a young man,

he has already won for himself a reputation in agricultural circles that may well be envied. He was born in Atchison County, Mo., October 5, 1863, being the ninth in order of birth of fourteen children—seven sons and seven daughters—all of whom grew to mature years, born to John and Ellen (Martin) Stoner, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and moved to Atchison County, Mo., while a young man, being among the pioneers of that part of Missouri, and the latter a native of Ohio, but mostly reared in Missouri. Mrs. Stoner died July 13, 1885, but her husband still survives, and is living on the old home place. Nelson H. Stoner grew to manhood in Atchison County and received a good common-school education, supplemented by a collegiate course. In 1883 he went to California, and spent about three years on a stock ranch in that State, returning to Missouri in the spring of 1886. He farmed in Missouri during the summer of that year, and in the fall came to Nebraska, purchasing his place in Nuckolls County, and immediately engaged in farming and stock-raising, in which he has continued very successfully ever since; in connection therewith he has been dealing in grain since the fall of 1889. Mr. Stoner is a staunch Republican in politics, and was elected to the office of justice of the peace in the fall of 1889, and appointed enumerator of this township for 1890. He had the great misfortune to lose his wife in December, 1888, whom he had married in Atchison County, Mo., June 7, 1886. Her maiden name was Miss Nancy J. Thompson, and she was born, reared and educated in Tennessee. Her death left one little daughter motherless—Vera—now a bright little miss of three years.

George W. Stubbs, attorney, Superior, Neb. This rising young attorney owes his nativity to Livingston County, Mo., where his birth occurred on the 10th of April, 1867, and is the son of George B. and Evaline S. (Hale) Stubbs, the former a native of Shelby County, Ind., born on the 7th of March, 1840, and the latter a native of Henry County, Iowa, born about 1842. Both parents are still living, their home being in Chillicothe, Mo. The paternal grandparents of our

subject were Elias and Elizabeth (Updegraph) Stubbs, and the Updegraph family, of which the latter was a member, trace their ancestry back to three brothers, whose names were Isaac, Abraham and Jacob, who came to America with William Penn, settling in Pennsylvania. The Stubbs family are of German extraction. The maternal grandparents of our subject, Hugh and Elizabeth (Mathews) Hale, were both natives of Ohio, and the Hales were of English descent, Sir William Hale being of the same family. George W. Stubbs, the third in a family of seven children, six of whom are sons and all of whom are living, spent his boyhood days in his native town of Chillicothe, Mo., graduated from the high school at that place on May 1, 1884, and subsequently pursued his scientific and literary studies under a private tutor, receiving a first-class education. Shortly after graduating, he accepted a position as book-keeper for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, and continued in that capacity one year. In the mean time he had entered upon the study of law and on January 1, 1887, he entered the law office of L. A. Chapman, of Chillicothe, Mo., remaining with him engaged in the study and practice of law until August, 1888. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1887, and in September of the following year he came to Superior, where he has actively and successfully practiced his profession ever since. He has built up a reputation as an able lawyer, and ranks as one of the most brilliant members of the Nuckolls County bar. While his practice is general in its character, he pays particular attention to the criminal branch of the law, and to corporation practice. He is attorney for the Missouri Pacific Railroad, the First National Bank, and a number of other corporations. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically is a staunch member of the Republican party.

Roderick D. Sutherland is a painstaking and successful lawyer of Nuckolls County, Neb., but was born in Jones County, Iowa, in 1862. He received the rudiments of a good education in College Spring College, Iowa, and for some years devoted his time and energies to teaching in the

public schools of that State and Nebraska. He finally commenced the study of law under D. W. Barker, an able and prominent attorney of Nelson, and in 1888 was admitted to the bar at this place. Having thus accomplished one of his greatest ambitions in life, he associated himself with J. M. Campbell in the practice of his profession, and has already become well known throughout Nuckolls County. Mr. Sutherland is a young man of exceptionally fine constitution, weighing close upon 200 pounds, and his power of endurance in the way of study, and all the sedentary employments placed on the shoulders of an attorney, are so great that it is little wonder that in a few years he has accomplished, in the way of law, what it usually takes a lifetime to do. He is implicitly trusted by all who know him, and he was never known to permit a suit to go to court when it could be possibly settled by arbitration. Mr. Sutherland is charitable to his opponents and enemies, and believes in winning a case only by fair and honest means. In all things he is liberal, especially in religion and politics, and as a citizen, is looked upon with respect and esteem. His marriage to Miss Anna Laramore has resulted in the birth of two children: Gracie and Goldie. Mr. Sutherland is a son of Robert and Isabella (Sutherland) Sutherland, who were distantly related.

Victor E. Taylor, postmaster, Superior, Neb. Mr. Taylor's father, James G. Taylor, was born on the Island of Guernsey, in the English Channel, in about 1820, and was married in London, England, in 1841, to Miss Mary A. Judd, a native of Liverpool, England, born about 1821. Immediately afterward they emigrated to America, located at Troy, N. Y., and there their seven children were born, Victor E. being the fifth in order of birth, and five of whom are now living. When the subject of this sketch, whose birth occurred in West Troy on October 16, 1860, was four years of age, his parents removed from West Troy, N. Y., to North Adams, Mass., and there he spent his boyhood days. He finished a course in the Drury Academy of that place at the age of sixteen years, after which he came west and entered the Western Union Telegraph office at Omaha, where he passed

nearly a year learning telegraphy. He then spent nearly three years on a cattle ranch which his father owned, in Seward County, Neb., and afterward he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and for nearly three years had charge of the fuel and engine supplies at Aurora, Ill. He subsequently spent a year and a half on the ranch again, after which, in April, 1886, he came to Superior, Neb. Here, for thirteen months, he was employed as check clerk in the office of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, after which he entered the employ of the Wells, Fargo Express Company as express messenger, and held that position about two years, or until January 1, 1890. In February of that year he was appointed postmaster at Superior, and he is now discharging the duties of that office in an admirable manner. Mr. Taylor was married on November 5, 1885, to Miss Ella J. Rathbun, a native of Hillsdale, Neb., and the daughter of Thomas and Harriet Rathbun, of Seward County, Neb. Mr. Taylor and wife have three children: Rachel E., James G. and Albert L., all living. Politically he is a Republican, and takes an active part in the local politics, promoting the welfare of his party whenever an opportunity is presented. He has a large circle of friends, among whom he is very popular.

J. B. Threlkeld has been engaged in the livery business in Nelson, Neb., since July, 1886, and constantly keeps on hand a large number of horses and carriages ready for use. He received a good common-school education in Mahaska County, Iowa, where he was born in 1857, and there he was reared to manhood on a farm and was married. The last-named event was to Miss Maggie E. Wing, she having also been born in Mahaska County in 1857. In the fall of 1882 they left their native State to take up their abode in Nebraska, and until February 28 were residents of Superior. Besides his farm of eighty acres in Nebraska, he also had one of the same size in Kansas, and thither he and his wife wended their way at the above-mentioned date, their farm in Jewell County being their home for two years. Mr. Threlkeld then opened a livery stable in Superior, being in partnership with different men until July,

1886, when he moved his stock to Nelson, Neb., where he has since been in business alone. He is well fixed, financially, and besides the property he owns at this point, he is also a considerable real estate holder at Superior. Mr. Threlkeld is a popular gentleman, is not in the least jealous of rivals in business, "live and let live" being his motto, and is doing a paying and constantly increasing business. He is a K. P., a member of the A. O. U. W., being one of the Uniform Rank in the former organization. He and wife have two interesting children: Lurah B. and Elsie May. Mr. Threlkeld is a son of Merritt and Nancy (Cox) Threlkeld, both of whom were born in Indiana, the former a farmer by occupation. He is now residing in Iowa on the farm which his father homesteaded on first moving to that State, forty-two years since. He and wife have five children living. His father resides in Indiana.

William Penn Trent, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. Not without justice Mr. Trent is conceded to hold an enviable position among the prominent and successful citizens of Nuckolls County. He was originally from the Blue Grass State, where his birth occurred on April 2, 1841, and to his parents were born the following children: Henry (is a merchant of Illinois, and lost the use of one leg while in the army); Nancy (deceased), Euphemia (married Reuben Hollister, a farmer by pursuit, and is now residing in Illinois), Simon (resides in Illinois, engaged in farming, and served three years in the army; he married Miss Marshall), Robert (also married and is engaged in tilling the soil in Missouri) and Phoebe (who married Mr. Moore, a pump manufacturer, and resides in Moline, Ill.). The parents of these children were natives of Kentucky, and died and were buried in that State. William Penn Trent received his education in the common schools, and was early taught the duties of farm life. He was married to Miss Addie Wilcox, a native of Illinois, born June 3, 1846, and this union has been blessed by the birth of four children: Anna (married E. E. Schatzley, of German descent, and now resides in Nebraska), Euphemia (is well educated and makes her home with her parents), William and

Mabel (are at home attending school). On June 6, 1861, Mr. Trent enlisted in the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, Company E, Fourth Division, Seventeenth Corps, Second Brigade, and was mustered into service at Jacksonville. He was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, under Col. John M. Palmer, and was engaged in the following battles: Pittsburgh Landing or Shiloh, Hatchie River, siege of Vicksburg, second battle of Jackson, Natchez and Meridian. He then went home on a furlough and later met the main army at Kenesaw Mountain, and 150 of the regiment fortified. The Confederate general at Big Shanty captured all but thirty-six of two regiments, and Mr. Trent happened to be among the thirty six who were not taken. Then there was continual fighting from Atlanta to Raleigh, N. C. Mr. Trent then attended the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., and went from there to Louisville, Ky., thence to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Fort Kearney, Neb., and finally to Leavenworth again, where the company and regiment were mustered out of service on September 28, 1865. Mr. Trent then went home, and in 1871 emigrated direct to Sherman Precinct, Nuckolls County, Neb., where he entered 160 acres by soldier's homestead. There were no improvements at all when he first came here, and the good buildings, etc., on his farm are the work of his own hands. He has always adhered to the Republican party, and cast his first presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant. He served as treasurer of his school district for eight years, and has always taken a decided stand for good schools. He is a member of the G. A. R., Edgar Post No. 16, which is in quite a flourishing condition, with about eighty active members. He is also an active member and supporter of the Farmers' Alliance, and he and wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Edgar. Mr. and Mrs. Trent expect to make Nebraska their home for the future, and on their well-improved farm of 200 acres, surrounded by all the comforts that go toward making them happy in their domestic relations, they are contented to reside.

James Turner, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. On April 25, 1825, in Lincolnshire, Eng-

land, ten miles from Manchester, James Turner, one of four children, was born to his parents, who were also natives of England, but who are now deceased. The children were named as follows: Richard (resides in England and is engaged in railroading, was married, but his wife is now deceased), George (married and resides in England, and his occupation is that of laborer on public works) and Samuel (resides in England and is also engaged on public works). In 1857 Mr. James Turner emigrated with his family (three small children) from England to the States, settled in Ohio, engaged in mining in the Tuscarawas Valley and remained in that State for seventeen years, when he moved to Nebraska, and purchased 320 acres of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad lands. He married Miss Hannah Hyde, a native of England, May 25, 1851, and to this union have been born six children—three sons and three daughters—five now living: Joseph (married Miss Jennie Cobb and resides in Montana), William engaged in mining in Idaho Ter.), John (a farmer, residing in Kansas, married Miss Lora A. Lea), Alice (resides in Nuckolls County, and is the wife of Joseph W. Stansbury, a native of Indiana) and Hannah (resides in Nuckolls, and is the wife of James W. Pierce). Mr. Turner lost his wife in 1866 and was left with five small children to raise. During the late war he enlisted in the old One Hundred and Fourth Ohio Regiment Infantry, Company E, Twenty-third Corps, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He was mustered into service at Massillon, Ohio, and was engaged in the following battles: Capture of Cumberland Gap and during the siege of Knoxville, Tenn., and this episode will always remain fresh in the mind of Mr. Turner, for it was there that he nearly starved to death. Under the command of Gen. A. E. Burnside, he participated in numerous small engagements and skirmishes, and served his country faithfully and well for two years and ten months, being honorably discharged at Knoxville, Tenn. He has always been identified with the Republican party, and his first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. Mr. Turner takes a deep interest in educational mat-

ters, is a supporter and advocate of the Farmers' Alliance, and is an admirer of good religious principles. He resides on his beautiful farm of 400 acres and all his surroundings are comfortable and complete in every particular. His farm is well stocked with good horses, cattle and hogs.

Henry C. Vollbehr, boot and shoe dealer, Superior, Neb. The boot and shoe trade is of no slight importance and is well represented in Superior. Holding a leading place among the most prominent merchants in this line is Mr. Henry C. Vollbehr, who engaged in this business in 1888 and who has made a success of the same. He was born in Holstein, Germany, on February 25, 1845, and is the son of David F. and Elizabeth Vollbehr, with whom he came to America when but nine years of age. On reaching this country the family settled in Clinton, Iowa, and there both parents received their final summons. In Germany the father held the position of judge, but after coming to America he led the life of an agriculturist. Henry C. Vollbehr spent his youthful days in Clinton County, Iowa, received his education in the public schools at Lyons, Iowa, and afterward graduated from a commercial college at Davenport, Iowa. For several years following this he was engaged as a commercial traveler. In 1871 he embarked in the grocery business at Belle Plaine, Iowa, which pursuit he followed two or three years, and again started out as a traveler. In 1874 and 1875 he was book-keeper in a commission house in St. Joseph, Mo. In the latter part of the last mentioned year he went to Neenah, Wis., where he clerked four years in a hardware store. In 1880 he came to Nebraska, and learned the baker's trade at Blue Springs. Three years later he came to Superior, where he has resided ever since, and of which city he is now a leading business man, being the proprietor of a first class bakery, and the principal one in town. In December, 1888, he embarked in the boot and shoe business, since which time he has owned and conducted a very fine boot and shoe store, but also carries on the bakery business. He was married on July 4, 1867, to Miss Henrietta C. Bussing, a native of New York City, and the daughter of Frederick Bussing, a native of

Germany. Mr. Vollbehr and wife have had three children: Mamie, Charles, and Frederick, who died at the age of four and a half years. Mr. Vollbehr is a member of the K. of P., and he and wife are members of the Lutheran Church.

Adam Walkinshaw was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, January 31, 1847, of Scotch parentage. His father, John Walkinshaw, was born in Ireland, but emigrated to this country with his parents in his ninth year (in 1819), the family locating in Guernsey County, Ohio, where John Walkinshaw grew to manhood, subsequently marrying Miss Margaret Glasgow, also a native of Ireland, but who was reared in Ohio. Mr. Walkinshaw was a farmer and miller, and in the fall of 1857 removed to Iowa and located in Des Moines County, his wife dying at this place in the spring of 1859. He broke out a farm in this county, on which he resided for a number of years, and then removed to Louisa County, dying there in the spring of 1884. Adam Walkinshaw was reared to farm labor in Des Moines County, Iowa, and remained with his father until he was grown. He then engaged in tilling the soil on his own responsibility, farming in Des Moines County for some time and then locating in Page County, Iowa, where he farmed for one year, and in 1872 came to Nebraska and located in Saunders County. After spending one year in that county, he moved to Platte County, homesteaded and made a good farm there, on which he resided for seven years, then sold it and moved to Nuckolls County, coming here in the spring of 1881, and has ever since been an honored resident of this county. On his arrival here he located 160 acres on which he now resides, which he broke out and made into a good farm, and now has it nearly all fenced and cross-fenced. He has a good hedge of 600 rods, an orchard of 120 apple and cherry trees, some of which are bearing, a fine grove of 15,000 trees, now six years old, which, with a good residence (the main part of it being one and one-half stories high, and the ell one story), suitable barn, sheds and out-buildings, stamp him as an industrious farmer in easy circumstances. Mr. Walkinshaw handles stock to some extent, feeding out a bunch of steers occasion-

ally. Mr. Walkinshaw was married in Des Moines County, Iowa, in February, 1877, to Miss Maggie A. Baird, born, reared and educated in Des Moines County, a daughter of John and Catherine Baird, and this union has been blessed in the birth of five children, namely: Margaret C., William J., John B., Mary M., and Annie G. (who died in August, 1889, aged sixteen months). Mr. and Mrs. Walkinshaw are both members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, in which they are zealous workers, the former being an elder in this church.

Benjamin C. Ward, farmer and stock-raiser, Beaver Township, Nuckolls County. Mr. Ward ranks among the most prosperous of Nuckolls County's agriculturists, and enjoys the reputation of being not only a substantial and progressive farmer, but an intelligent and thoroughly posted man on all public affairs. The State of his nativity is New York, where he was born (in Chautauqua County) on September 19, 1849, being the son of S. D. and Charlotte E. (Cornell) Ward, the former of whom was born and reared in New York, and the latter in Massachusetts, of Scotch descent. The father, a carpenter, cabinet and pattern-maker by trade, was a mechanical genius, skillful with all tools. Soon after the birth of his son, our subject, he concluded to try his fortunes farther west, and accordingly moved his family to Walworth County, Wis., and there followed his business until his death, which occurred in 1874, leaving a widow who now makes her home with her son, Benjamin, the only survivor of two children whom they reared to maturity. He spent his early days in the pastimes usual to boyhood, and obtained a most liberal education in the high-schools of Walworth County, and after reaching manhood's estate he worked in a wagon-making establishment for twelve years, at the end of that time leaving this business to engage in mercantile pursuits. He first worked in a store, but later engaged in business on his own responsibility in Walworth County. Subsequently he went to Chicago and engaged in business there for one year, when, not meeting all the success he could desire, he returned to Wisconsin and there made his home until 1884. On April 5 of that year he arrived in Nuckolls County, and on the 10th of the

same month there was a fall of two feet of snow, but, notwithstanding this decidedly discouraging aspect, he was favorably impressed with the country and decided to make it his home, and the wisdom of his choice is now apparent. He purchased the place on which he now resides, which was then but slightly improved, and immediately commenced a system of improvement, which has greatly increased the value of the property. He has a good orchard of fifty fine fruit trees, all choice varieties, and most of the trees now bearing. Fifteen acres of his land lie adjoining the corporation and is very valuable, while his barns, sheds, cribs, etc., are neatly and substantially built, and give the place the prosperous appearance of a farm in a much older country, and stamp the proprietor as an enterprising and well-to-do agriculturist. One-half mile east of his home place Mr. Ward owns 120 acres of choice land, all of which is fenced off into timber, meadow, pasture and plow land. His marriage occurred in Whitewater, Wis., in November, 1876, Miss Ines Marsh, daughter of Sanger Marsh, and a refined and intellectual lady, being the interested party. She was born and reared in Whitewater, Wis., but was educated at Jefferson, Wis., and Galesburg, Ill. Her father was one of the originators of the First National Bank of Whitewater, and at the time of his death was president of that institution. He made his way in life entirely by his own effort, as he started life a poor boy, and at the time of his death was one of the prominent men of Whitewater, and very highly esteemed and respected. To their married life have been born two bright daughters: Vina May and Florence C. In politics Mr. Ward is a Republican, but does not aspire to office, and is a member of the A. O. U. W. He is a man of excellent business capacity, unassuming but thorough, and can point with pardonable pride to the property he has amassed by his careful and intelligent business management.

E. T. Worden, county sheriff, Nelson, Neb. Mr. Worden, the present efficient incumbent of the office of sheriff, was originally from Michigan, where his birth occurred in 1850. His parents, James M. and Olive (Andrews) Worden, were natives of York State, where they resided until

after their marriage, and then moved to Michigan. There the father died, but the mother is living and makes her home in that State. E. T. Worden was a lumberman while living in Michigan, and worked there until 1879, when he emigrated west and settled in Nuckolls County. Previous to this he had traveled all over the State, and at last purchased school land in the northern part of Nuckolls County, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until appointed to the office of sheriff, made vacant by the ouster of Thomas Meaker, in December, 1887. He was defeated in the nomination for the next term, but was elected in the fall of 1889, and is now filling that position. Prior to being elected to the office of sheriff the last time, he had held the position of chief deputy sheriff, and while holding it carried on the affairs as though really elected to the office of sheriff. He was married in Michigan, to Miss Alice Hancock, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1847, and the fruits of this union were the following children: Charles A. (deceased), Olive S., Arthur G., Mabel, Nettie and Winifred. Mr. Worden sold his farm, and is the owner of a house and two lots in town. In his political views he is a Republican, and socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., the M. W. A., and the K. of P., in which he is master at arms.

Edmond Warren, farmer and stock-raiser, Edgar, Neb. Mr. Warren owes his nativity to Robertson County, Tenn., where his birth occurred April 23, 1817, and is now following a calling that has for ages received undivided efforts from many worthy individuals, and one that furnishes sustenance to the ready worker. He was reared to farm life, and continued this occupation on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, when he started out to work for himself. He emigrated to Macoupin County, Ill., in 1833, and worked in a steam saw-mill for five years. His nuptials with Miss Artie McGinnis, in Macoupin County, occurred in November, 1838, and the fruits of this union have been six children—three sons and three daughters: Cynthia Jane (was married in the State of Texas to Richard Short, a native of Tennessee), Margaret (wife of James Bridges, a native of Georgia, and a cabinet-maker by trade; Mr. Bridges is deceased,

and his widow is now living in Sherman, Texas). James (married Miss Georgia Howard, a native of Illinois, and resides in Nuckolls County, Neb.), Mahlon (resides in Illinois, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising; he married Miss Crump, a native of Illinois), John (married Miss Mary Howard, a native of Illinois, and is a farmer by occupation) and Nellie (who is married and resides in Missouri; her husband is a miner by occupation). The mother of these children died about October, 1869, and Mr. Warren was married to Miss Lucinda Graham, a native of Illinois, in 1874. He was a Democrat until the Rebellion, when he cast his lot with the grand old Republican party, and has advocated its principles up to the present time. His first presidential vote was for Martin Van Buren. He first came to Nebraska in 1871, direct from Illinois, and homesteaded in Clay County. About 1879 he sold out, purchased eighty acres in Sherman Precinct, and has witnessed the rapid development of the country. He has seen the Indians pass and repass on his premises, and has brought down many animals. Mr. Warren and wife are now the owners of 240 acres of land, all under a high state of cultivation, and are esteemed and respected citizens. Mr. Warren is not a member of any secret organization, but is an active and enthusiastic believer in and worker for the principles of the Farmers' Alliance. Mrs. Warren is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Edgar, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Warren expect to spend the remainder of their days in Nebraska, surrounded by peace and plenty, on their nice, well-improved farm, and among friends and neighbors who value their friendship and esteem.

George Warren, farmer and stock-raiser, Davenport, Neb. Mr. Warren was early taught the duties of farm life, and this occupation he has since continued to follow. He was born in the Buckeye State, February 21, 1833, received his education in the common schools of that State, and when twenty years of age began working for himself. He was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Johnson, a native of York County, Pa., born June 7, 1851, and whose parents were natives of Ireland and Maryland, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Warren

were born the following children: Stephen A. Douglas (died at the age of two and a half years), Uriah J. (resides at McCook, Neb., is engaged in lumbering and the real estate business, and is also the owner of 480 acres of land in Hayes County), Ida J. (resides in Davenport, Neb., and is the wife of Reuben Moore, a merchant of that place), George H. (died at the age of six years), John Wesley (resides in Davenport, Neb., and is also engaged in the lumbering business—although but sixteen years of age, he is a fine specimen of full developed manhood, and, in addition to a good common-school education, he also attended the normal school at Salina, Kas.), William W. (resides on the homestead with his parents, fourteen years old, and has completed his education in the district school), and Florence A. (also at home). Mr. Warren is a half-owner in one and a half sections of improved land, which is possibly one of the most beautiful tracts in the precinct. This is well hedged, and on the land are handsome and substantial buildings of all kinds. Mr. Warren emigrated direct to Nebraska from Illinois, in the spring of 1883. He is an ardent supporter of the Prohibition party, and in all local questions is an active worker and supporter of principles which will develop the interests of the farmers. He is a very enthusiastic friend of the education of the people, and affirms that the public school is the salvation of our nation. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He and Mrs. Warren are devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Davenport, Neb., and both are Sunday-school workers. They have always contributed to all laudable enterprises, and are among the most esteemed and respected citizens of the county. Mr. Warren's father was a native of Maryland, and followed the occupation of farmer all his life. The mother, whose maiden name was Nancy Anthony, was a native of North Carolina. Of the ten children born to their union four are now living: Frances (married Thomas Wendell, a native of Ohio, and a farmer and stock-raiser by occupation, and is now residing in Logan County, Ill.; they have six children living), Sallie Ann (married Philip Wendell, a farmer and stock-raiser, and their family consists of six children;

they also reside in Logan County, Ill.), Elvira (married William Jones, a native of Ohio, and a farmer by occupation; she had previously married Jacob Bowersock, a native of the Buckeye State, and also a farmer, and to this union were born five children; to the last marriage was born one child).

John R. Weimer has been identified with the farming and stock-raising interests of Nuckolls County, Neb., for the past ten years, and is the owner of 160 acres of exceptionally fine farming land, all of which is under fence and splendidly improved with all necessary buildings and a fine young orchard of different varieties of fruits. He first saw the light in Somerset County, Pa., February 20, 1841, his father, Peter Weimer, being a native of the same place, his birth having occurred in 1817. He married a Pennsylvania lady, Lydia Parker by name, and they are still residing in their native State, enjoying their declining years. The father in former years was a blacksmith and farmer, but for some time has given up the active duties of life. The paternal grandfather was born in Germany, and upon coming to the United States at an early day located in Somerset County, Pa., where he passed from life. The subject of this sketch is the second in a family of nine children who grew to mature years, and from his native State he enlisted in the Union army September 4, 1861, becoming a member of Company C, Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, serving until October, 1864. He was taken prisoner at New Market, in the Shenandoah Valley, and was kept a prisoner from May until August, being wounded in the knee by a gunshot. Prior to the war he had obtained a good education, and upon returning home after the cessation of hostilities he followed the occupation of teaching, then farming, and later engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1876 he moved to Brown County, Kas., but after a four-years' residence there he came to his present place of abode, where, as above stated, he owns a fine and valuable farm. He has always identified himself with the Republican party, and from 1884 until 1890 was one of the county commissioners, and while serving in this capacity won an excellent reputation for sound

judgment and executive ability. His farm lies five miles north of Hardy, which is the nearest post-office, and he has been statistical reporter for the State Agricultural Society since 1887. Miss Harriet E. Cramer, a daughter of John S. Cramer, of Somerset County, Pa., became his wife March 1, 1866, and they now have a family of four children: Flora B., Alice, Charles A. and Llewellyn R. The family are members of the Lutheran Church, in which he is deacon, and he belongs to the G. A. R. Post at Hardy, and is a member of the I. O. O. F.

G. A. Wilkins, farmer and stock-raiser, is well and favorably known to the majority of the residents of this section of the country, for since the spring of 1875 he has been prominently identified with the farming interests hereabouts. He is a native of Daviess County, Mo., his birth having occurred in 1843, and he is the fourth child born to James and Agnes (Harvard) Wilkins, who were born in Pennsylvania and Indiana, respectively. The father learned the tanner's trade in his youth, and followed this occupation until his death, which occurred in Daviess County, Mo., in 1848. He and his wife had been to church, and on their homeward journey, while trying to cross a swollen stream, Mr. Wilkins lost his life. After his death Mrs. Wilkins removed with her children to McLean County, Ill., and there reared her family to mature years. She died in 1884, having borne five children: Ellen (Mrs. Ward, of Daviess County, Mo.), John R. (who was a soldier in the Union army, lost his health while in the service, and returned home and died), G. A. (the subject of this sketch), Jemimah and Minerva (who are both deceased). G. A. Wilkins spent his youth on a farm in Illinois, and there received the advantages of the common schools. When about eighteen years of age he began farming for himself, and after some time spent in McLean County, he followed the same occupation in Daviess County, Mo. In the fall of 1866 he was married in the former county to Miss Sarah Crawford, a daughter of David and Grace (Forsythe) Crawford, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Wilkins was born in Indiana, and has borne her husband seven children: Elmer,

Leonora, Emma, Jesse, Wesley, Carrie and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins and their three oldest children are members of the Christian Church of Pleasant Hill. They have been residents of Nuckolls County, Neb., since 1875, and now have an excellent farm of 320 acres, which he has reclaimed from a wild state, as the country was almost an unbroken prairie when he settled here, and Hastings, the nearest grain market, twenty-five miles away. His farm is considered one of the best in the county, and in addition to devoting his attention to the cultivation of the soil, he is largely engaged in raising stock of a good grade, and has a fine imported Percheron horse, black in color, weighing 1,035 pounds, eighteen hands high. Mr. Wilkins has always been interested in politics, and is now serving his second term as county commissioner.

George W. Williams, farmer and stock-raiser, Bostwick Township, Nuckolls County, Neb. Mr. Williams is another of the prominent farmers of this county who claim Iowa as their native State. He first opened his eyes to the light of this world in Cedar County, Iowa, June 11, 1852. His father, William M. Williams, was born in Pennsylvania, but when he was twelve years of age his parents decided to move west, and with their family settled in Ohio. Here W. M. Williams grew to manhood, and in 1840, thinking the west offered greater attractions for an energetic and enterprising young man, he went to Iowa and settled in Cedar County. He was married here to Miss Barbara Sloper, a native of Ohio, who was a helpmate in every sense of the word. Together they made a farm in Cedar County, on which they resided until 1881, at that time coming to Nebraska and locating in Nuckolls County, and are now residing in Bostwick, where Mr. Williams is an extensive stock dealer. George W. Williams is the second son of a family of four children—two sons and two daughters—and grew to maturity in Cedar County, remaining with his father until 1875. He was married March 2, 1874, to Miss Josephine Keith, a native of Cedar County, Iowa, a daughter of Benjamin Keith, and one year after engaged in farming in Cedar County, then moved to Boone County, where he tilled

the soil for three years, and in 1884 came to Nebraska and located in Nuckolls County. On his arrival here he purchased 160 acres of good land, in two tracts, all of which he has fenced, and eighty acres of it under cultivation. On this he has erected a good residence, the kitchen being stone, and the main building frame, ordinary out-buildings, cribs, sheds, etc. He has a good grove, and an orchard of 100 trees just beginning to bear. Mr. Williams raises and stall-feeds from one to two carloads of steers and about one carload of hogs each year, and is very successful. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of five children, viz.: William W., Olie, Forist, George and Charles. In politics Mr. Williams is a staunch Democrat, but does not aspire to office.

Prof. Isaac Eldridge Wilson, superintendent of the city schools of Superior, Neb., and an educator and author of ability and prominence, was born in Alexandria, Madison County, Ind., June 25, 1859, and is the son of James L. and Margaret (Busby) Wilson, and grandson of James Wilson, whose parents emigrated to America from Germany. The parents of our subject still reside in Alexandria, Ind., and five of the six children born to their marriage are now living, Prof. Wilson being third in order of birth. The latter passed his youthful days in his native town, and received his earlier education in the schools of the same. At the early age of fifteen he started out as a teacher, and his whole life since has been dedicated to school work, either in the capacity of student or instructor. When seventeen years of age he entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, where he attended six months, and then returned to Alexandria, where he taught a private normal during the summer of 1877. The following winter and year he was employed as a teacher in the Alexandria public schools, and in the latter part of 1878 he entered the Northern Indiana Normal School, at Valparaiso, Ind., which he attended two years and a half, completing both the scientific and classical courses. In July, 1881, he established the Western Normal College at Bushnell, Ill., which was maintained at that place with 175 students until in May, 1882, when, on account of a dona-

tion of \$10,000 and a college site given by Shendoah, Iowa, the institution was removed to that place, and has been very successfully conducted there ever since, having at the present time 800 students. Of it Prof. Wilson continued to be president and proprietor until February, 1884. In the month of June, 1883, the college building was severely injured by a storm. As a result of this, Prof. Wilson sold the institution, and since then it has had other management. It is now one of the leading institutions of the kind in the country, and it is a lasting monument to the energy and ability of its founder. During the two school years of 1885-86 and 1886-87, Prof. Wilson was principal of one of the departments of the Norton Normal and Scientific Academy at Wilton Junction, Iowa, and during the school year of 1887-88 he was superintendent of the public schools of Weeping Water, Neb. In the fall of the latter year he entered upon the duties of superintendent of the public schools of Superior, Neb., which position he has filled with characteristic ability ever since. Besides building up for himself an enviable reputation as an educator, Prof. Wilson has attained considerable prominence as an author. In 1886 he wrote and published a work of 750 pages, entitled "The System Method in Education," which has had quite an extensive circulation. Besides this, he is the author of other works which treat upon educational topics. The Professor was married on March 12, 1883, to Miss Emma Felton, who is also a classical graduate of the Northern Indiana Normal School, and who, by profession, was a teacher, having been a member of the faculty of the Western Normal College, of which he was principal. From her marriage, with the exception of one year, she has steadily pursued her profession, either as the assistant or co-worker of her husband. Ever since Prof. Wilson took charge of the Superior public schools, Mrs. Wilson has been principal of the high school at that place. She has also rendered her husband valuable assistance in the preparation of the material for his publications. Prof. Wilson and wife are very pleasantly situated, occupying one of the cosiest and most attractive homes in Superior, it being their

own property, and erected by them in 1889. They have a large circle of warm friends, among whom they are very popular.

William A. Wright, farmer and stock-raiser, Beaver Township, Nuckolls County, Neb. No name is more closely associated with the agricultural interests of the county than the one that heads this sketch, for it is borne by a man who is progressive in his ideas, and during his residence in this county has been one of its most successful agriculturists. He owes his nativity to Adams County, Ohio, where he was born on December 16, 1843. His father, Robert L. Wright, was a native of New York, born, reared and educated in Orange County, but left his native State when a young man and went to Ohio, settling in Adams County, where he was married to Mary Ann Glasgow, a native of that State. He was an active worker in the anti-slavery party, and his home was a refuge for the oppressed while trying to reach Canada, at that time the nearest place of freedom. On one occasion six negroes lay in his barn for two weeks; \$1,000 reward was offered for them, and Kentuckians were riding past every day. At that time the laws of the United States would fine and imprison any one harboring runaway slaves. But he thought it a duty to God to defend the oppressed against such laws. Subsequently he moved to Page County, Iowa, and settled on a farm near Clarinda, on which he lived until his death which occurred in 1859. He was a prominent member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, a ruling elder, and took a very active interest in church work. He was twice married; his first wife died in Adams County, Ohio, and in 1855 he married his second wife in Des Moines County, Iowa, who survived him. The subject of this sketch is the oldest of a family of three children, all of whom are now living and heads of families. He grew to manhood in Page County, Iowa, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company K, Fourth Iowa Infantry, and served until he was honorably discharged at the end of his term of enlistment, which was in September, 1864, during which time he participated in the battle of Vicksburg, was in a number of engagements on the Atlanta campaign, and was at Kene-

saw Mountain, June 27, 1864. At the latter battle he was wounded by being struck on the head by a piece of shell, but was not disabled. He was also in the battle of July 22, when they twice charged and recovered two forts, after Gen. McPherson fell, and on July 28, when Gen. Logan, with the Fifteenth Corps whipped two corps of rebels under Gen. Hood. Mr. Wright was discharged at Jonesboro, and returned to Iowa, spending one year in Des Moines County, and then went to Page County, where he made his home until 1882, at which time he came to Nebraska and purchased the place on which he now lives. This place comprises 150 acres of rich bottom land on Lost Creek, the farm cornering with the corporation on the northwest of Superior, and is a very valuable and desirable property. He has a good one-and-one-half story residence, and has planted an orchard of 150 trees, all choice varieties, besides a quantity of small fruits. He was married in Page County, Iowa, on February 6, 1868, to Miss Mary Ann Gilmore, a native of Pennsylvania, and the daughter of William Gilmore, who moved to Page County, Iowa, in 1861. This union has resulted in the birth of nine children, six of whom are still living, viz.: Robert G., Eva M., Etta Mabel, William M., Wilma and Nellie B. James M., Edwin G. and Harlen died in infancy, the two former dying in Page County, Iowa, and the latter in Nuckolls County, Neb. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wright are members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, the former being the treasurer and a deacon. In politics Mr. Wright was formerly a Republican, but he now casts his vote with the Prohibition party. He is a very courteous gentleman, having a kind word for all, and is greatly honored and esteemed.

Ferdinand C. Yenny was born in Washington County, Wis., October 13, 1855, of German parentage. When he was less than five years of age his parents moved to Carver County, Minn., where, being among the very early settlers, they endured all the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. At that time Indians were very plentiful in that section, and they experienced much trouble from them, on one occasion being driven from their home by these murdering savages. They lived

here for three years, when, in 1863, the father enlisted in the Federal cause, and served his country right royally until the close of the war, when he again returned to Minnesota, and located about thirty miles north of Minneapolis, where, in the very heart of the forests of Minnesota, he cleared up a large farm, our subject assisting him. Ferdinand Yenny obtained a good education in the common schools of Minnesota, and after completing his education engaged with a large dry-goods establishment at Farmington, Minn., with which he was connected for some time. In 1880 he immigrated to Dakota, locating in Grant County, and clerked in a store at Millbank, at the same time holding down a claim near that town, for two years. In the spring of 1882 he was licensed to preach by the Minnesota Conference of the Evangelical Association which convened at Paynesville, Minn., with Bishop J. J. Esher, of Chicago, in the chair, and was appointed to the Aberdeen Mission, in the Territory of Dakota, to which mission he ministered faithfully and well for two years, during which time he traveled 11,000 miles with a horse and buggy. The first year he traveled 6,000, and the second year 5,000 miles. The mission was composed of seven counties, and contained ten German and four English appointments. At the conference session of 1884 he was appointed to Centreville Mission, in the extreme southeastern part of Dakota, which he served one year. In 1885 he was transferred from the Dakota to the Nebraska conference, and was stationed at Superior Mission, which he attended for two years. In the spring of 1887 he engaged in the newspaper business, purchasing a half-interest in the Superior Guide, Mr. J. F. Graves being the senior member of the firm, and together they conducted the business for six months, when Mr. Yenny bought out his partner's interest and assumed entire control of the business which he is now very successfully carrying on, and has already established an enviable reputation as a newspaper man. While striving so hard to gain a place in the journalistic world, he does not neglect his ministerial duties, but frequently preaches and lectures in different parts of the State. He is also a regular contributor to the Evangelical Messenger,

published at Cleveland, Ohio, which is one of the best religious journals in this country. At Blue Earth City, Minn., in the summer of 1884, his marriage to Miss Mary E. Sasse, an amiable and accomplished young lady, was consummated, and this happy union has been blessed in the birth of a daughter, a bright little girl of nearly five summers. In politics, Mr. Yenny is a Prohibitionist, and is working for the amendment.

James F. Young, grocer, of Superior, Neb., was born in the County of Stanstead, Province of Quebec, Canada, January 9, 1834, and was the son of Isaac and Ruth (Waid) Young, who were born, reared and married in the State of Vermont. He was the ninth in a family of ten children—six sons and four daughters—all of whom reached maturity, and five of whom are now living. His father died when he was a lad of nine years, and his mother died in 1872. He spent his youth in his native county on a farm, receiving a common-school education. When he was eighteen years of age he came to the United States, and for one year he worked on a farm in DeKalb County, Ill. Returning to Canada, he remained six months, after which he again came to the United States, and for the next two years labored as a farm hand in Carroll County, Ill. He then returned to Canada once more, and on April 5, 1859, he was married to Miss Mary Cass, who died in January, 1871, in Hardin County, Iowa, leaving two children—Willie O. and Lillian M.—both of whom are now married. Mr. Young remained in Canada, engaged in farming, until 1865, when he again came to the United States, and this time located in Hardin County, Iowa, where he farmed until 1872. In that year he removed to Page County, Iowa, where he remained tilling the soil till the fall of 1879. He then came to Nebraska and located on a farm which he had previously purchased in Thayer County. A year later he removed to Superior, where he has lived ever since. Here he became the proprietor of a temperance billiard hall, which he conducted successfully for about six years. From the spring of 1886 until the fall of 1889 he was engaged in the ice business, and had the trade in that line of the entire city. In Sep-

tember, 1889, he purchased a grocery stock and building on Main Street, and has since successfully conducted the business. He has recently taken a partner in the person of his son, Willie O. Young, and they are now doing a first-class business under the firm name of J. F. Young & Son. Socially Mr. Young, Sr., is a member of the I. O. O. F., and politically he is a Prohibitionist. He is an honorable, upright man, and a worthy and respected citizen.

Peter Yunker farmer and mason, Victor Township. One has but to look at Mr. Yunker's fine farm in Section 34 to know that the owner was born in Germany, the country that has furnished to America so many of her sturdy sons of toil. He came to Nebraska in 1871 and took up 160 acres of good land on Liberty Creek, and afterward purchased 120 acres more, making his farm to comprise 280 acres of choice land, all of which is well improved with good buildings, etc., which give the place an air of prosperity and stamp the owner as a thrifty, enterprising and industrious, well-to-do farmer. He has one of the finest orchards in the county on his farm, and a nice grove of natural timber. In connection with his farming interests Mr. Yunker is largely engaged in raising cattle, and handles all kinds of stock. He has since first becoming identified with the county taken an active interest in its affairs. He was the first justice of the peace of Nuckolls County, which county he helped to organize in May, 1871, and has served several times on the school board of his township. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1842, being the seventh of ten children born to Frank William and Anna M. (Burger) Yunker, the former a native of France and the latter of Bavaria, Germany. His father was a sailor and ship-carpenter, and followed the sea for fifty years. He was married in Germany, and there reared a family of nine children, viz.: Joseph, Valentine, Frank, Anna, Maggie, Lorenzo, Peter (our subject), Clara and Valentine. The mother died in the old country, but the father passed from life in America. The life of our subject up to the age of twenty-three years was spent in the old country. When he was twenty-three years of age he emi-

grated to America and located in Iowa City, Iowa, where he worked at his trade—that of a mason and plasterer—which he had learned in the old country. He was married in Johnson County, Iowa, in 1867, to Miss Mary Schumm, daughter of Louis and Apalona (Derdinger) Schumm, both of whom were born in Bavaria, Germany, and

came to this country, settling in Ohio, where our subject's wife was born in 1855. This union has been blessed in the birth of ten children, viz.: Louis, Anna, Rose, Lucy, Frank, Peter, Clara, Mary, Celia and Grace. Both Mr. and Mrs. Yunker are devout members of the Catholic Church, and in politics Mr. Yunker is a Democrat.



ERRATA.



Correction of sketches received too late for proper insertion:

Page 595. Sketch of E. K. Conrad:

First line, *Blue Hill* should be *Cowles*.

Third line, Date of birth May 11, 1842.

Third line, *nine* should be *eleven*.

Fourth line, *six* should be *seven*.

Fifth line, *Ethel* should be *Eatha*.

Seventh line after *State* add: and Pennsylvania.

Seventh line, *1850* should be *1854*.

Ninth line, 1863 should be 1864.

Seventeenth line, after *Ill.* add: The other surviving member of the family lives in Iowa.

Twenty second line, after *Cumberland* add: and participated in all the battles of his division from Nashville to Chattanooga, and at the fearful slaughter of Peach Tree Creek and Kennesaw. At Perryville a rebel bullet whistled through his hair and tore the letter from his cap, following which he lay sick in camp, of fever, for five weeks until carried to the hospital. He fought his last battle at Bentonville, proceeding thence to Washington, but was too weak from nervous prostration to take part in the "grand review."

Thirtieth line, *Last named county* should be *city of Peoria*.

Thirty-first line, date of marriage *October 3*.

Thirty-third line, *Wedman* should be *Weedman*.

Thirty-fifth line, after *Ill.* add: from Ohio in 1835.

Thirty-seventh line, date of death October 12, 1862.

Page 596. Same sketch:

Fourth line, 1876 should be December 25, 1875.

Ninth line, after *politics* add: is working for the Prohibition amendment.

Thirteenth line, after *children* substitute: Mina (the eldest, after teaching a number of terms of school, became the wife of J. P. Beale, a resident and farmer of Webster County), Wilbert (studied telegraphy, was agent at Cowles two years, and is now day operator at Akron, Col.), Nancy L., Sarah E., William, Frank, Ruby, Lewis and Guy, all with their parents.

Page 610. Sketch of D. G. Grice:

Twenty-sixth line, *Thomas J.* should be *Thomas T.*

Twelfth line, second column, *David's Island* instead of *Grand Island*.

Page 611. Same sketch:

Eighth line, *Mary L.* instead of *Mary and Louisa*.

The Publishers will cheerfully correct, by special errata sheet to be sent to every subscriber, any error in the book, upon notification of the same.

